

BLUES REVIEW

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE 2011/12 – £3.00



MACCLESFIELD TOWN v BOLTON WANDERERS

Saturday, 7 January 2012 • 3.00pm • FA Cup with Budweiser, 3rd Round

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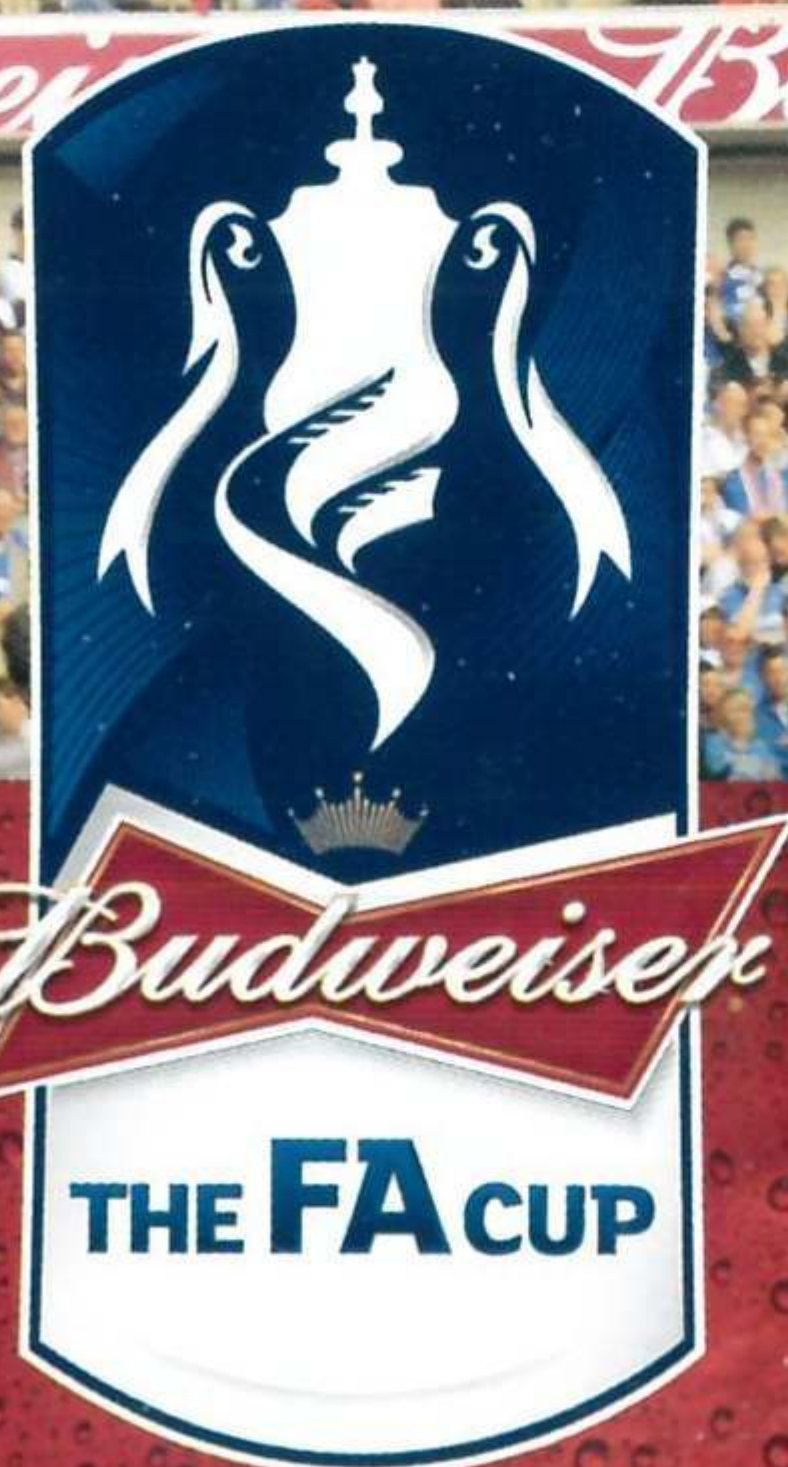
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Days like today are what it is all about! The 3rd Round of the FA Cup, one and the highlights of the footballing calendar and one that will see the Silkmen pit their wits against Premier League opponents Bolton Wanderers!

It's your classic David against Goliath encounter with all the makings of a pulsating ninety minutes of football. The ingredients are certainly there. A packed little ground. An expectant crowd! Slightly alien conditions to what our visitors are used to. And of course a Silkmen team eager to cause an upset, having whetted their appetite earlier in the season when the two teams met in the Carling Cup.

It will be only the fourth time we have hosted a match at this stage of the competition. So it's been a busy week as the team behind the scenes worked hard to make sure the Moss Rose is ready for kick-off! A big thank you goes out to all of those people who have made it happen.

The media interest has also been high in the lead up. The ITV cameras are also here today. So it's a chance for our football club to shine.

It should be fun and we can't wait!



CONTENTS

5	Gary Simpson
7	From the Boardroom
12	Introducing Bolton Wanderers
19	Fans Eye View
21	All you need to Know about Bolton
28	Programmes Through the Years – January 1988
36	Review of 2011
44	Head to Head
44	Dressing Room Talk – Glyn Chamberlain
58	Is it Time for a Winter Break?
64	Fixtures & Results
68	Today's Squads & Officials

Macclesfield Town, Moss Rose Stadium
London Road, Macclesfield SK11 7SP

TELEPHONE **01625 264686** - FAX **01625 264692**
OFFICIAL WEBSITE **www.mtfc.co.uk** -
EMAIL **office@mtfc.co.uk**

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Pat Stock

PROGRAMME/WEBSITE EDITOR:

Richard Stanton

PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTORS:

Leigh Edwards, Matt Davies, Colin Newbould,
Football League Paper, Rob McDonald,
Clive Tyldesley, Bernard Jordan

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Peter Hilton, PA Photos, Jamie Leather,
Bolton Wanderers

HEAD CHEF:

Alex Thomson

HEAD GROUNDSMAN:

Dean Johnson / Assts: Liam Markie, James Wilson

SAFETY OFFICER:

Martin Bradley

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Manager's Report

with Gary Simpson

Happy New Year and welcome to the Moss Rose for what promises to be a very special occasion as we play host to Bolton Wanderers in the FA Cup.

They say it's the greatest competition in the world and who am I to argue. The 3rd Round is particularly special as the big boys enter the fray, and having earned our right to be in the hat thanks to victories over East Thurrock and Chelmsford City, we were rewarded with a crack at Premier League opposition.

You can't get better than that. So certainly a day to saviour for everyone associated with the football club from the players, the fans to the board, the backroom staff and of course the town in general.

And let's get this straight, we are not simply here to make up the numbers. Each year the FA Cup throws up shocks and this season will be no different. So why can't it be us that grabs all of the headlines later tonight? It's going to be tough, of course it is but dare I say it, football is a funny game.

Glyn and myself took the opportunity to have a look at Bolton on Wednesday night when they travelled to Everton. It wasn't a great night for football with the wind and the rain. But they showed great character to pick up the three points after going behind to what can only be described as a bit of freak goal from Tim Howard. It would have been easy for them to have thrown the towel in, especially given their league position, but if anything it spurred them on and highlighted how tough it will be for us this afternoon.

People understandably have asked me what sort of team I'm expecting Bolton to put out. To be honest, without wishing to sound dismissively, it doesn't really concern me. Like all Premier League teams, the manager has a good squad to call on so irrespective of who gets selected today, we'll be up against quality players.

But that's a challenge we should relish. That said our preparations have been far from ideal. The treatment room has been a busy place this week, with Reidy working hard to try and get players fit in time for the game. I expect several of the lads to miss out which will be a big shame. So it has taken a bit of the gloss of things if I am honest but that's football

for you, and it's up to the eleven players that I send out there today to raise their game. And if Bolton are slightly off colour, you just never know!

It will also be great to see the ground close to capacity again. It makes such a difference as was the case against Port Vale seven days ago. I thought it was a great advert for football albeit the win came at a cost with the injuries picked up by Drapes and Hammy. A game 48 hours later, with a threadbare squad was always going to be a hard ask. And so it proved. But the scoreline certainly flattered Accrington.

We dominated the early stages, played some good stuff and could have easily been two or three ahead. But we paid the price for not taking our chances. By contrast Accy scored from four of their five, the second on the stroke of half time a real killer and it was always going to be difficult to get back into the game after that.

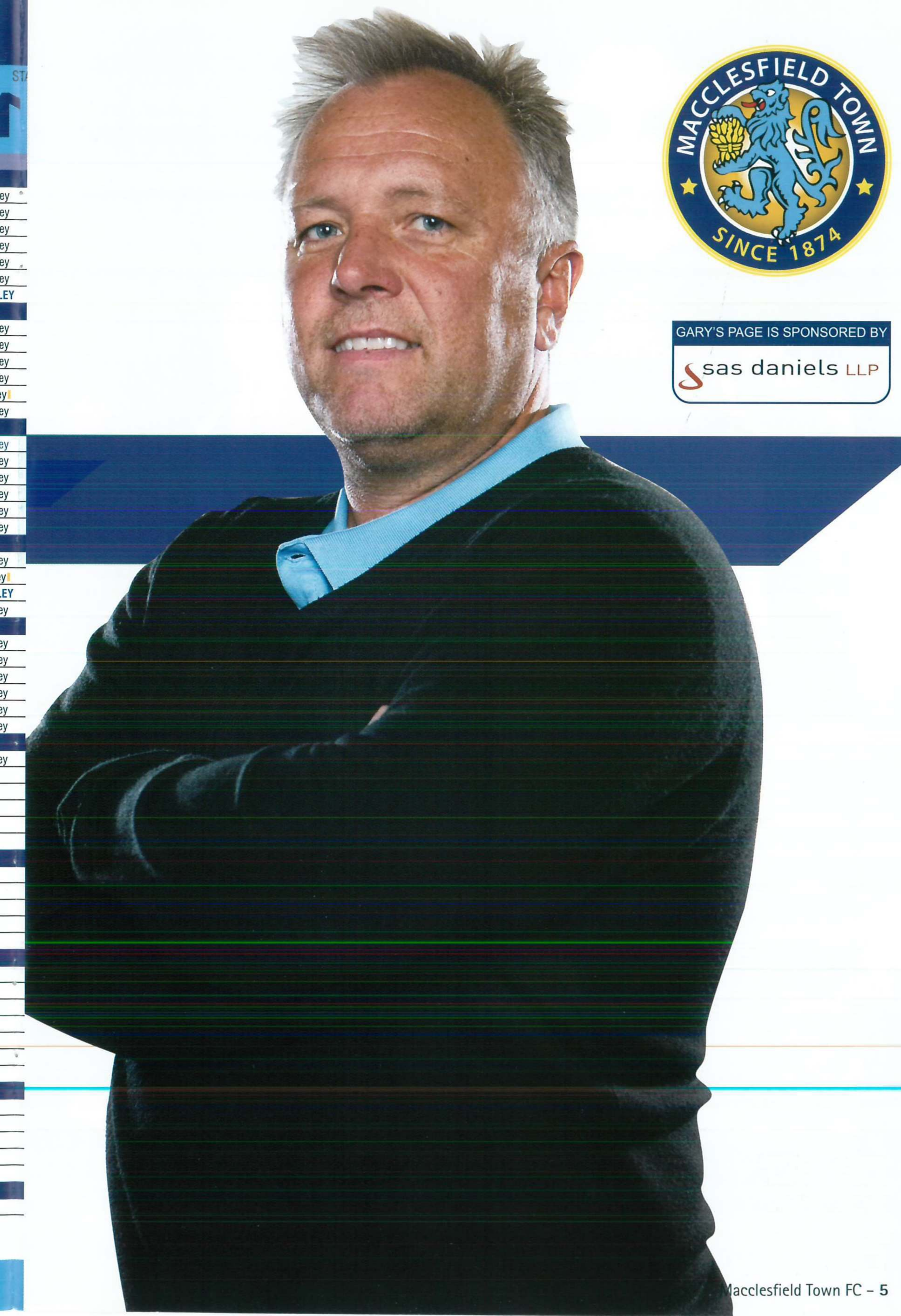
But there were positives. The attitude and work rate was once again excellent and Michael Thomas showed he has clearly benefitted from his period out on loan, and looks like a player who can now cut it at League Two level.

That's like a new signing for us which helps give us greater strength. But there is no denying that the injury list is severely hampering us. We may get a few back in the next week or two but we'll still be down on numbers which is why I'm hoping to use the Transfer Window to freshen things up a little. It may mean we have to get a few of the lads out on loan to help make that happen but it's certainly something we are working on.

But as for today, well let's just go out there and enjoy ourselves. It's not often that chances like this come along so it is up to us all to make the most of it.

So give the lads a big cheer and as I keep saying, you never know what might happen!

Enjoy the game
Gary



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There really is something special about the Third Round of the FA Cup. With the big boys joining in for the first time it's the point at which the venerable competition gets serious.

So it is with great pleasure that we welcome the players, officials and supporters of Bolton Wanderers to the Moss Rose for today's game. It's also, uniquely, the first time we've had the opportunity to take on a Premiership side twice in the same season having given the Trotters a decent run for their money at the Reebok in the Carling Cup last September.

The Silkmen's build up to today's big game has been mixed. A hard fought but ultimately well deserved victory over near neighbours Port Vale on Boxing Day was achieved at the not insignificant cost of a metatarsal injury to Ross Draper and one game suspensions for Nat Brown and George Donnelly. As a result it was a somewhat untried eleven that faced our current bogey side, Accrington Stanley, last Monday. Once again John Coleman has Accy on a great run and despite taking the game to our hosts for most of the first half we were ultimately well beaten by the current form team of npower League Two. There were positives however with Michael Thomas impressing in his first League start, Paul Morgan making a long-awaited return and Arnaud Mendy contributing a second excellent performance in three days in midfield.

But today for us is all about the magic of the Cup and the fact that the Moss will host a near capacity crowd today dispels any thoughts that the competition has lost any of its attraction. Once again the TV cameras are here because of the potential for an upset but for the Silkmen the roles are reversed. Against Chelmsford in the second round replay we were cast in the somewhat unfamiliar role of favourites, with the Clarets the potential giant

killers. We put in a thoroughly professional performance that night to avoid the banana skin and set up today's tie. Now we're the underdogs facing a side with massively greater resources but we have a real opportunity to beat the odds. A committed performance both on and off the pitch might just see us through.

The Trotters will of course be carrying the same burden we shouldered against Chelmsford. Like us in the last round they are expected to win comfortably. They are also facing a critical period in their battle to retain their Premiership status. These notes are being written prior to their mid-week game against Everton at Goodison and their Premiership schedule also sees them take on Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal in the next few weeks; a daunting prospect for Owen Coyle and his squad. As a result, today's game for all at the Reebok - squad, management and supporters alike - will offer a break from the immense pressures of the Premiership and a chance to complete an unusual double over lower league opposition.

Everything then seems to be set up for a classic Cup tie and I sincerely hope that we can make our own contribution to making it a fine spectacle. And for the many folk present today who are not regular visitors to the Moss Rose I hope you have an enjoyable day and, whatever the result, please come back again soon. There's no substitute for the experience of a live game. Enjoy it and have a safe journey home.

Happy New Year!

Mike

UPFRONT

with Neil Boothby



Good afternoon, Happy New Year and welcome along to Moss Rose for this afternoon's F.A. Cup with Budweiser 3rd Round fixture against Bolton Wanderers.

May I take this opportunity to welcome the players, officials and supporters of Bolton and hope you have an enjoyable afternoon with us here in Macclesfield.

What a wonderful few weeks it has been commercially at the club with a fantastic Boxing Day crowd against Rotherham United, topped off with that great result on New Year's Eve against local rivals Port Vale.

Our Match Day Experience has been at capacity in the McIlroy Lounge for both games and I would go as far to say that there is no better atmosphere anywhere in the Football League pre-match, when the lounge is full.

Since the replay win against Chelmsford City I have felt like how a Premier League commercial manager feels. The phone has not stopped ringing with people wanting to book tables and book advertising/sponsorship for this afternoon's game, in addition to the media interest.

So fingers crossed the footballing gods are shining down on us this afternoon as we entertain one of the countries "big boys".

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A very warm welcome to this afternoon's big match sponsors who are:

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As loyal supporters of the club we hope you enjoy your afternoon with us at Moss Rose and look forward to seeing you again soon.

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Again no strangers to the Moss Rose, we say a big thank you to Big Storage who also kindly sponsor our very own Roary the Lion as well as large boards on the Main Stand.



Bank Fashion

Another long standing supporter of the Football Club who need no introduction for the fashion conscious amongst us. Enjoy the afternoon!

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This afternoon's match ball sponsor is Campey Turf Care Limited who we extend a very warm welcome to the Moss Rose.



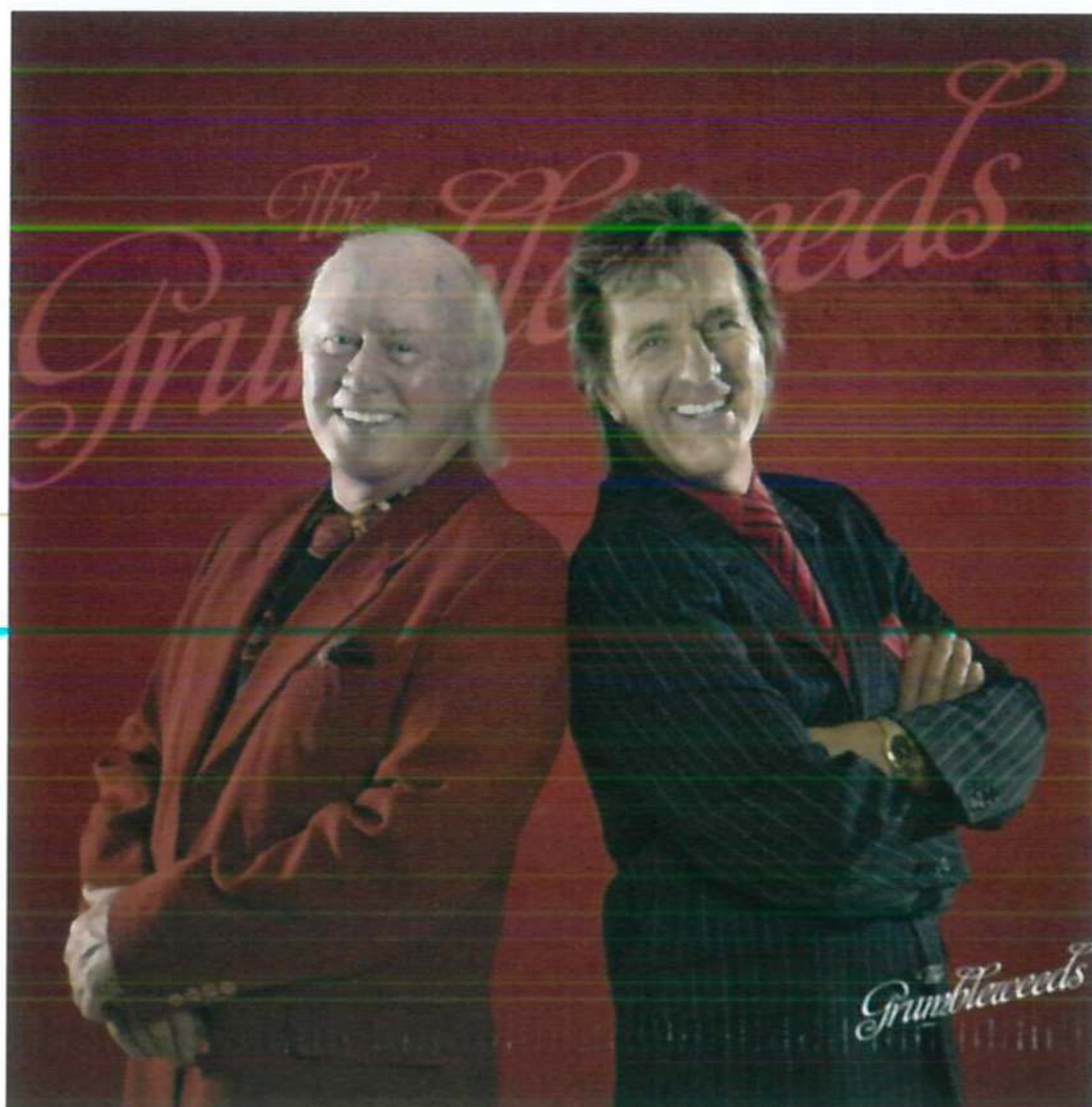
SPORTSMAN'S EVENING



On Thursday 2nd February 2012, Macclesfield Town host their annual Sportsman's Evening. As ever an amazing night is planned in the McIlroy Lounge with The Grumbleweeds providing this year's entertainment and the fantastic after dinner speaking of former Wales international and current manager of Doncaster Rovers F.C Dean Saunders. The evening is guaranteed to have you laughing in the isles and also includes a few surprises. There will be the usual raffle and fundraising auction with some outstanding prizes and items up for grabs.

Tickets are priced at £50 per head (£500 for table of 10) and this can be booked by calling 01625 264686 or emailing neilboothby@mtfc.co.uk

This really is going to be an amazing event so book early to avoid disappointment.



LIVE IN THE LOUNGE

Calling all fans of Lee Evans! The incredible Ian Jones, the country's top tribute to Lee Evans will be providing a non-stop rollercoaster of laughter in the McIlroy Lounge on Thursday 15th March. His uncanny likeness to the comedy legend and impeccable delivery and timing will make this the must see event of the year.

Tickets are priced at £12.50 for reserved seating and £10.00 for unreserved seating.

Don't miss this laugh out loud event!

And Finally

Don't forget that today is the last time for you to have vote for the new Silkmen anthem. The chosen track will make its home debut ahead of next week's game against Torquay so get your votes in.

Today however is all about the magic of the cup and let's hope we can create our own Cinderella story in this magical competition. Once again enjoy the game

"IT'S GOOD TO BE MACC"

Neil



TRIBUTES POUR IN FOR FORMER SILKMEN REPORTER



Everyone at Macclesfield Town was saddened to hear of the tragic death of former Macclesfield Express Sports Editor Liam Chronnell last month.

Formerly of the Macclesfield and Wilmslow Express as well as working in Stockport and Salford, Liam was a regular in the Moss Rose press box. He

worked closely with the media team at the club, and was a regular columnist in this very matchday magazine at the same time before moving on to work on the Bolton News.

Liam was a knowledgeable pundit, a real football man and will be sadly missed.

Here are just a few of the many tributes from those who were all the better for having known him.

"I was deeply saddened to hear of Liam's death. He was a very talented journalist and a pleasure to have had working as sports editor on the Macclesfield Express. Being a local lad he knew a great deal about the sporting scene in the area and communicated that knowledge in a wonderful fashion through the pages. We shared many afternoons together at Moss Rose watching the Silkmen play and he read football matches like an old pro."

"Beyond his professional capabilities, Liam was a good friend of everyone at the paper, a thoroughly decent man who never lost his sense of fun. It's a very, very, sad loss."

Former Macclesfield Express editor Dave Lafferty

"We had some great fun and I'll miss his sense of humour. He was a talented journalist, with such a keen sense for news. He had a way of cutting through everything and getting straight to the story."

"He loved his partner Caroline and his young daughter Olive to bits, and all our thoughts and prayers are with them both." –

Bolton News Chief football reporter Marc Iles

"Liam's death has been a tremendous shock to everyone in the company. He was a popular and talented journalist who will be sadly missed."

Bolton News editor Ian Savage

"We were extremely saddened to hear of Liam's death. He was a regular at our press conferences and a likeable, engaging man. I would like to offer our deepest sympathy to his family."

Bolton Wanderers Manager Owen Coyle

FA CUP 4TH ROUND DRAW

The draw for the next round of the competition will take place on ITV tomorrow afternoon around 5.40pm immediately after the final whistle of the Manchester derby.

City will host United in a repeat of last year's semi-final at Wembley from where the draw will be made. The winners of today's game, or both if the tie goes to a replay, will be number 22 in the hat and will probably have mixed emotions if there are paired with number 3, the winners of the game at the Etihad Stadium.

Other notable numbers to look out for are 28, which should be

Chelsea assuming they prevail against Portsmouth, Fellow League 2 sides Shrewsbury (1), Dagenham (4), Crawley (5) and Bristol Rovers (7) will also be looking to advance whilst Bolton might want another crack at Stoke to try and exorcise the memory of last season's semi final hammering. The Potters will be number 27 if that get past another League 2 representative Gillingham.



EMERGENCY TRANSFER WINDOW TO CEASE



The Football League has recently been informed by FIFA that the 'Emergency Loan' system (that has operated in The Football League for the last six seasons) is contrary to the international statutes covering the Status and Transfer of Players. Consequently, FIFA's Player Status Committee has given us two and a half years to come into line with international arrangements, meaning that clubs will no longer be permitted to sign players on emergency loan between transfer windows from the beginning of the 2014/15 season.

Speaking about on the new, the League's Head of Communications John Nagle said this week,

"This is clearly a disappointing development as we believe that smaller professional football clubs with smaller playing squads should have the ability to bring in additional playing talent on a short term basis as and when required.

"On a more positive note, FIFA have indicated that they are prepared to review the current international rules and will undertake research to ascertain whether there is support around the world for any relaxation in the present Transfer Window restrictions.

"So we will at least have the opportunity to argue our case, which is that we believe transfer windows should only apply to international transfers as the removal of these restrictions on a domestic basis would help stimulate player movement and encourage the re-distribution of wealth by rewarding those clubs that are successful in developing playing talent.



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GEORGE SIGNS PERMANENT DEAL

George Donnelly, on loan with the Silkmen from Blue Square Premier Fleetwood Town since September, has become a Macclesfield Town player after the two clubs agreed the terms of a transfer for an undisclosed five figure fee.

Donnelly, who netted the Silkmen's winner in our last home game against Port Vale, his fourth goal for the club, has signed a two and a half year deal that will keep him at Moss Rose until June 2014.

"He'll be a great asset to the club" said Silkmen manager Gary Simpson. "He's still young but has some good experience under his belt, so he's someone we are very happy to have brought to the club permanently."



CAST YOUR VOTES

The Football League Awards 2012 are coming up, and they have asked each club to nominate one goal to be their entry for the Mitre Goal of the Year for 2011.



The 72 nominations will be whittled down to 10 and then shown on Soccer AM to produce a shortlist of five. The ultimate winner will then be decided on the night of the awards.

So we are asking you to choose which goal we put forward from the following shortlist.

- 19th Feb - Izak Reid v Stockport (A)
- 22nd Feb - Matt Hamshaw v Morecambe (H)
- 15th Mar - Sam Wedgbury v Lincoln (H)
- 30th Apr - Emile Sinclair v Gillingham (A)
- 16th Aug - Ross Draper v Hereford (A)
- 13th Sep - Ben Tomlinson v Morecambe (H)
- 17th Sep - Ben Tomlinson v Northampton (H)
- 8th Oct - Ross Draper v Aldershot (A)

All the goals can be seen on Silkmen Player via the official club website. Once you have made up your mind you should e-mail your choice to office@mtfc.co.uk putting 'Goal of the Year' in the subject line. Deadline is next Friday.



PAUL LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING OLD FRIENDS

Club masseur Paul Geaney will be hoping to catch up with a few former colleagues this afternoon. Paul joined the Trotters back in 2004, working at the Euxton training grounds in Chorley, a time he remembers fondly.

"I would work on a daily basis with the first team players and reserve team players carrying out sports massage before and after training and also on a cool down day after a game. The training ground was under reconstruction while I was there and over a year I seen a fabulous facility created for the players and staff which included steam rooms, hot and cold dips plus under floor heating everywhere in the building.

"The medical department had a large treatment room plus a four private state of the art treatment rooms. It was a really nice place to work. I still remember my first day as I had to treat Stelios Giannakopoulos, Fernando Hierro and Gary Speed I don't think you could get a better line up than that to start your first day with. In fact all the players and staff were very nice people to be around it was a close family club very much like Macclesfield Town.

"There are only 3 players still at the club from my time there and they are Kevin Davies, Ricardo Gardner and Jussi Jaaskelainen and I hope to meet and say hello to them at the game. I will be nervous on the day with having a foot in each camp but I will have both feet in the Macc camp on Saturday of course.



JOSE SHORTLISTED FOR DECEMBER AWARD

Macclesfield Town goalkeeper Jose Veiga has been nominated for December's Player of the Month by the Football League. The Silkmen played six matches through December, conceding only three goals in games against Chelmsford (twice), Gillingham, Shrewsbury, Rotherham and Port Vale, with Jose keeping three clean sheets (taking his total for the season up to 11) along the way.

He is joined on the shortlist by Brian Hughes (Accrington Stanley), Luke Oliver (Bradford City) and Matt Tubbs (Crawley Town).



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Our Opponents...

BOLTON WANDERERS



It's been a tough few months for Bolton manager Owen Coyle but you will not find the gritty Scot shirking from his responsibilities as he looks to get his team's season back on track.

And the confidence is certainly not lacking after seeing his side pick up all three points on Wednesday evening despite trailing early in the second half to Tim Howard's freak goal, his wind assisted effort struck from inside his own penalty area.

The comeback was sealed thanks to goals from David Ngog and Gary Cahill, who despite continued media speculation is still a Bolton player despite his employers having agreed a transfer fee with Chelsea.

Speaking in the immediate aftermath of the game at Goodison Park Coyle spoke honestly about the importance of Wednesday's win and the challenge ahead.

"It was a big win but a merited win. We knew that we had to be at our best and we were. I have always said

we can avoid relegation. We have players who would get into most Premier League sides."

The former Burnley boss was full of praise for his side's fighting spirit, something many believe has been lacking this season especially at the Reebok Stadium where the Trotters have picked up just four of the thirty points on offer in the ten games so far this campaign.

"When you're down in bottom three you leave yourselves open to criticism but you must see through that,"

By contrast the victory over Everton was the fourth on their travels, following up the crucial win in the 'Six Pointer' against fellow strugglers Blackburn Rovers, two results that have seen them climb off bottom spot, arriving at the Moss Rose today just a point behind fourth-bottom QPR.

Reflecting on the fightback at Everton, Coyle added: "With the wind and conditions, Tim Howard scored with a freakish goal. Adam Bogdan was magnificent and was in a good position. The lad certainly wasn't at fault.

"At that point, I felt the luck was going to go against us. I thought the bad luck we had in 2011 had followed us into 2012. But we still believe in what we are doing. We had created good chances before their goal - and we had the belief, character and resilience to come back.

"After the equaliser, we didn't sit back. A lot of teams in our position would have been happy with a point at Goodison. We pushed on and capitalised."

It certainly was a timely result for Bolton who will need all their new-found belief this month given what the daunting prospect of a trip to Manchester United before home games against Liverpool and Arsenal.

Ironically, given today sees the start of their FA Cup campaign, many feel the side's struggles can be traced back to the club's traumatic exit from the Semi Final stage last season. Hopes of a place in the Final were high as they headed to North London for a very winnable game against Stoke City.

But it was the Potters who rose to the occasion, putting five unanswered goals past a hapless Wanderers team. Although they were to win their next Premier League outing, an impressive 2-1 victory over Arsenal, they next five games were lost as they finished the season with a whimper.

And that form has been carried on into the 2011/12 campaign despite a fantastic opening day when they put four past league new boys Queens Park Rangers at Loftus Road. It proved to be a false dawn as the next point would not be picked up until mid-October, a run of six straight defeats that saw both Chelsea and Manchester United score five at the Reebok. The only respite ironically came in the Carling Cup against the Silkmen.

Injuries to key members of the squad, including the talented full-back Marcos Alonso who has made only three appearances for the club since his summer arrival from Real Madrid, have certainly not helped but with Cahill expected to move on shortly, many of the Reebok faithful will be hoping that will allow the manager to use the January Transfer Window to strengthen his squad for the months ahead.

"When you're down in bottom three you leave yourselves open to criticism but you must see through that," Coyle added. "We'll look to get one or two back from injury and we'll look to add one or two in the January transfer window."



Last Six Home Games

Wolves	D 1-1
Newcastle	L 2-0
Aston Villa	L 2-1
Everton	L 2-0
Stoke	W 5-0
Sunderland	L 2-0

Last Six Away Games

Everton	W 2-1
Blackburn	W 2-1
Fulham	L 2-0
Spurs	L 3-0
West Brom	L 2-1
Swansea	L 3-1



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BOLTON WANDERERS

Like most Premier League managers, Owen Coyle has call on a vastly experienced squad. Here's a quick look at the players who could feature for Wanderers at the Moss Rose this afternoon.



GOALKEEPERS

Adam Bogdan

Following Ali-Al Habsi's summer loan move to neighbours Wigan Athletic, Bogdan was promoted to Jussi Jaaskelainen's understudy and proved an important back-up in the goalkeeping department and also enhanced his ever growing reputation after making his senior first-team debut against Southampton in August 2010. He went on to feature in Premier League games against Arsenal, Aston Villa and Blackburn, while also playing his part in the club's run through to the semi-final of the FA Cup.



Jussi Jaaskelainen

A club legend who has been with Bolton since 1997 when the Finnish 'keeper moved from VPS Vaasa in his homeland for just £100,000. He went on to make the Wanderers goalkeeper's spot his own for the next decade and made his 500th appearance for the club against Birmingham in an last season's FA Cup quarter-final. The international has also played 56 times for his

country. He was recognised for the loyalty when he received an Outstanding Achievement award at the 2011 Player of the Year Dinner.

DEFENDERS

Paul Robinson

Paul Robinson joined Wanderers in July 2009 from West Bromwich Albion and the tough-tackling full-back made the left-back position his own in 2010/11, missing only a handful of matches in the Barclays Premier League. Since making his Football League debut in 1996, Robinson has accumulated 490 first-class appearances with both Watford and West Bromwich Albion. In 2008 he was recognised for his reliable displays in the Baggies' successful league winning season by earning a place in the PFA Championship Team of the Year.

Gretar Steinsson

Gretar Steinsson completed his third full season at Bolton Wanderers in 2010/11 where he has been a mainstay at right-back since he joined Bolton for £3.5m in January 2008 from Dutch side AZ Alkmar. He had started his professional career with Icelandic side Akranes before later moving to Swiss outfit Young Boys in 2004. He has now



featured almost 125 times for the club.

Dedryck Boyata

A Belgian international who is with Bolton on loan from Manchester City. A versatile defender who is able to play anywhere across the back four, the 6ft 2in youngster also has a deceptively good turn of pace and has made a handful of senior appearances for City. Boyata, who was integral part of City's 2008 FA Youth Cup winning side, opted to join the Whites on loan until the end of the season.



Sam Ricketts

Formerly of Oxford United and Swansea City, the versatile Welshman has played at the Moss Rose on two previous occasions. After coming through the ranks at Oxford he moved to Swansea City in May 2005 and it was at Vetch Field where Ricketts established his reputation during a three-year spell. A move to Hull City followed in July 2006 and within two seasons he had played his part in securing the club's promotion to the Barclays Premier League for the first time in its history before moving to Bolton in 2009. He is also a regular member of the Welsh national squad, earning more than 40 caps.

Zat Knight

Zat Knight moved to the Reebok in July 2009 and has a decade worth of Barclays Premier League experience,

BOLTON WANDERERS

having gained promotion from Division One with Fulham in 2001. The former England U21 international made a total of 181 appearances for the Cottagers, before moving to Aston Villa in August 2007, where he marked his debut with a headed goal against Chelsea. The defender has also received full international recognition with England, earning caps against USA and Colombia in 2005.

Gary Cahill

A highly rated defender, whose commanding performances in the heart of Bolton's defence finally resulted in international recognition earning his first full cap in September 2010 against Bulgaria before making his full debut against Ghana the following March. Prior to joining Wanderers in 2008 for £5m the central defender came through the ranks at Villa Park and had a short spells on loan at Burnley and Sheffield United. However is expected to live the club during the currently transfer window, with Chelsea the favourites to capture his signature.

Ricardo Gardner

Now in his 13th year at the Reebok, the fans' favourite joined the club from Jamaican side Harbour View within months of coming to the attention of the wider footballing world with his performances for Jamaica in the 1998 World Cup. Gardner now has more than 400 games under his belt in a Bolton shirt and can play either left back or on the left side of midfield.

David Wheeler

Former England under-21 international Wheeler moved to Bolton in the 2011 January transfer window arriving from Middlesbrough. Wheeler had been with the Teesside club since the age of 17 and went on to captain the first team and represent Middlesbrough in Europe, before call-ups to the full England set-up followed. After more than 150 appearances in the North East, he moved west to The Reebok and had a bright start. Bolton did not concede a single goal during his first 345 minutes in a Wanderers shirt.

Mark Connolly

The Republic of Ireland U21 international defender was recruited

from Wolverhampton Wanderers on transfer deadline day in 2009 and after a season long loan at St Johnstone is regularly captain of Wanderers Reserve side.

Marcos Alonso

Marcos Alonso joined Bolton Wanderers from Real Madrid in the summer of 2010 and the highly-rated 19-year-old made nine competitive appearances throughout his first season with Bolton.

Adam Blakeman

A versatile player with an eye for goal, Blakeman often occupies the left-back role for the reserve side but is equally adept playing in the centre or on the left side of midfield. Regularly on the scoresheet for the Reserves side, Blakeman is often charged with duties from set-pieces and penalties.

MIDFIELDERS

Chris Eagles

A former Manchester United trainee, Eagles joined Bolton over the summer from Burnley – where he had been a regular for the past three years. Eagles made his Manchester United debut in October 2003 and went on to have loan spells with Watford (twice), Sheffield Wednesday and NEC Nijmegen before leaving the club for Burnley – then managed by Owen Coyle – in search of regular first team football. Eagles was a key member of the side that won promotion to the Premier League the following season via the play-offs and played a key part in the Claret's top-flight campaign in 2009/10.



Martin Petrov

Bulgarian international Petrov joined Wanderers from Manchester City in the summer of 2010. The left winger boasts a wealth of experience at the top level having played in the German Bundesliga, La Liga in Spain with Atletico Madrid and most recently, in the Barclays Premier League with City. Known to have a wicked shot, he scored against the Silkmen in the League Cup earlier in the season.

Nigel Reo-Coker

Wanderers signed Reo-Coker in July after the former England Under-21

captain left Aston Villa. A former Wimbledon trainee, he made 64 appearances for the club before leaving for West Ham in 2004 and being installed as club captain by Alan Pardew. He helped the Hammers win promotion back to the Premier League via the play-offs in 2005 and after one season back in the top-flight Reo-Coker moved to the Midlands, joining Villa in a deal worth up to £8m, spending four years at Villa Park before moving to the Reebok.



Darren Pratley

Another summer signing, the midfielder had made 199 appearances during a five-year stint with Swansea City, scoring 31 goals, his last outing being the npower Championship play-off final win over Reading at Wembley Stadium that secured the Welsh club's promotion to the Premier League. Prior to his spell in South Wales, Pratley progressed through the youth setup at Fulham training in the same team as current Wanderers duo Sean Davis and Zat Knight, before enjoying regular first team football out on loan with Brentford.



Stuart Holden

An American international, who joined in January 2010 from Houston Dynamo, Stuart was actually born in Aberdeen and began his footballing career as a trainee at Sunderland. Prior to his move to Bolton, the 24-year-old represented Houston Dynamo for three-and-a-half years, helping the Texas-based club to become the MLS Cup Winners in 2006.

Sean Davis

Sean is a midfielder who has suffered an injury plagued time with the club and has only been able to feature in four competitive matches since joining on a free transfer from Portsmouth in the summer of 2009. Davis has a wealth of Premier League experience, having accumulated nearly 200 top-



flight appearances with Fulham, Spurs and Pompey. He is looking to put his knee injuries behind him and played for the Trotter's Reserves last month – his first action in 27 months.

Mark Davies

Davies was originally a product of the youth academy at Wolves but rose through the ranks to make his first team debut in August 2005, the first of 35 appearances for the club. He also had a loan spell with Leicester City before moving to Bolton. He made 31 appearances last season and scored what was later crowned as the club's Goal of the Season when Bolton fought back from two goals down to earn a 2-2 draw with Blackpool in November 2010.

Fabrice Muamba

Fabrice Muamba was a virtual ever-present last season as he made 41 appearances in all competitions. He has represented England at every level from U16 to U21 during his time at Arsenal, where he made his senior debut in the League Cup and through spells at Birmingham before joining Bolton for £5m in 2009. Became a regular in the side in his first season with the club and has barely missed a match since with 138 appearances in all competitions in three and a half seasons.



Joe Riley

A graduate from the Bolton Wanderers academy, Joe Riley predominantly plays down the right flank and has been at the club since the age of nine. The player made his first team debut in the League Cup against the Silkmen earlier in the season and has since earned Premier League experience after featuring in the 5-0 win over Stoke.

FORWARDS

David Ngog

Bolton signed Ngog from Liverpool on transfer deadline day in August 2011. Prior to joining the Whites, Ngog had three years' worth of experience in the Barclays Premier League, having first moved to England from Paris St Germain in 2008. During his time at Anfield, the

pacey frontman netted a total of 19 goals. On the international scene, Ngog has earned honours for France from Under-16 level through to the Under-21 setup, where he made 18 appearances for his country since making his debut in 2008.



Robbie Blake

Robbie Blake joined Bolton on a free transfer from Burnley in the summer of 2010. A prolific goal scorer at every level he has played, Blake shot to prominence at Bradford City who he helped win promotion into the Premiership, netting the winning goal in the final game of the season that saw them finish league runners-up. He then moved on to Burnley before spells with Birmingham, Leeds United before a second spell at Turf Moor.

Ivan Klasnic

The Croatian international signed for Wanderers on a permanent basis in the 2010 summer transfer window after spending the previous season on loan from Nantes. The vastly

experienced frontman has also found the net on 11 occasions for Croatia in 37 appearances, with two of those strikes coming against Poland and Turkey at the 2008 European Championships. Has also played for FC St Pauli and Werder Bremen.

Kevin Davies

Another player with masses of experience, he joined the club on a free transfer from Southampton in 2003 having previously been at Chesterfield. The 2010/11 season proved to be a landmark campaign for the 34-year-old as he earned his first England cap in the Euro 2012 qualifier against Montenegro in October. The Bolton club captain notched his 50th goal for Bolton during the 2-1 home victory against West Ham in February of 2009 and his tally now stands at 64 League goals for the side.



Michael O'Halloran

An agile frontman, O'Halloran signed for Wanderers from Celtic as a youngster and scored plenty of goals for the Under-18 side. He made his first team debut in the Carling Cup tie against Macc in August 2011 and was an unused substitute for the Premier League game against Everton in November.



ONE TO WATCH

TUNCAY SANLI

Joined on a season-long loan deal from Wolfsburg in the summer where he had been for six months after moving from Stoke City in January. He had previous experience of the English game thanks to a two-year stay at Middlesbrough which saw him netting 17 Premier League goals in 59 starts.

The 29-year-old scored his first goal for Bolton on his debut, firing home a superb volley to help Wanderers beat the Silkmen 2-1 in the Carling Cup second round.



To gauge the mood amongst the Bolton Wanderers' faithful we caught up with John Holden, a lifelong Trotters' fan and a regular at the Reebok Stadium.

What are your thoughts on the season so far?

The season so far has been very disappointing. We started off fantastically with a 4-0 win away to Queens Park Rangers, but we haven't been able to build on that. Whenever we've had an encouraging result or performance, it seems to have been followed by a poor display. We view ourselves as a well-established Premier League club but one that is in serious jeopardy. Our problem at the moment is we can't keep clean sheets. We kept one in the first match of the season and I think we've only had one since then. Our form generally has been a bit baffling. Whenever we've had a good result or even a good performance, when we lost to Manchester City 3-2 and played really well, we never seem to have built on it. There have been a lot of individual mistakes and every time a player makes one, we seem to get punished, but I suppose at Premiership level you should expect that.

Overall, last season was deemed a success, so what's been the difference this time around?

It is hard to completely pinpoint what is different from last year, but there is no doubt that long-term injuries to absolutely key players has had a detrimental effect on the whole team. The likes of Stuart Holden, Sam Ricketts, Mikel Alonso and Lee Chung-Yong have been sorely missed and we don't have the resources to cope with such losses.

Will the rumoured sale of Gary Cahill affect your chances even more?

If Gary Cahill is to go, it could be viewed either way. It could be seen as another loss of a key player. On the other hand, the money we receive could help bring in two or three players to improve the overall performance, but we'll just have to see on that one. I think his form has dropped but I'm not so sure it has much to do with being linked to Chelsea. Instead, it could be much more associated with the general performance of the team. When collectively you're not playing well then individuals tend to look less good than they are. You can be dragged down by the general level of performance from the team, but he must have been playing pretty well because Chelsea wouldn't have pursued him otherwise. He's still a very good player and I think he's good enough for England.

Onto the FA Cup and what does it mean to the club?

The FA Cup can be seen both ways. It can be viewed as an unwelcome distraction and if you feel negative about the cup, then it could be another possible source of injuries and suspensions, and a greater loss of confidence. But it could also be a chance to experiment, try new players and give them an opportunity to regain form. I think most Bolton fans will view the cup in a positive light especially if we win today!

Having had a disappointing exit in the semi-finals last season, is there a sense of unfinished business?

I don't think so. We are more preoccupied with the league now as we've done so poorly this campaign. There was a massive sense of disappointment last season, not just that we lost in the semi-finals, but also the manner of the 5-0 defeat, and we've never really recovered from that. If you look at our form since then it's been very poor, it completely knocked the wind out of our sails.

With the situation in the league at the moment, will there be a focus on the FA Cup?

If you take out this season then the cup is generally viewed as a sideline and virtually every Bolton fan would say that staying in the Premiership is more important than doing well in the cup. However, this season because we've not done well in the Premiership, like I said, the cup is an opportunity to try and build a bit of confidence, and possibly try some young players just to see if they're up to the mark. So I think it's probably viewed positively by most Bolton fans at the moment. It was the same with the Carling Cup. Because that was early in the season, we played Macclesfield and were the first side to beat Aston Villa this campaign, and significantly, that's the only game Stuart Holden has played this season. I think Owen Coyle generally has a positive view on cups. Premiership teams that are not in the top five or six can still do well, with the likes of Stoke getting to the final and us getting to the semis last year.

score. I think many feel we should win on Saturday, although nobody feels that it will be a romp, but there's a hope that over 90 minutes our class will prevail.

What are your thoughts on the previous Carling Cup game this and how Macc performed?

Obviously, we didn't play our full team but they played really well and took the lead. On the balance, I think we just about deserved to win but it wasn't an easy game. But I did notice that the guy who scored [Emile Sinclair] was sold immediately afterwards and he took his goal very, very well. It will also be tough because Macclesfield have a very good home record, having only lost twice in the league this season.

Finally a score prediction:

I'm going to go for 2-1 Bolton.



What are the feelings on playing a lower-league side: trepidation of an upset or confidence that you can comfortably defeat them?

Probably a mix of both. Because we haven't been doing well, nobody will be overconfident and also because we've played Macclesfield in the Carling Cup and only won by a close

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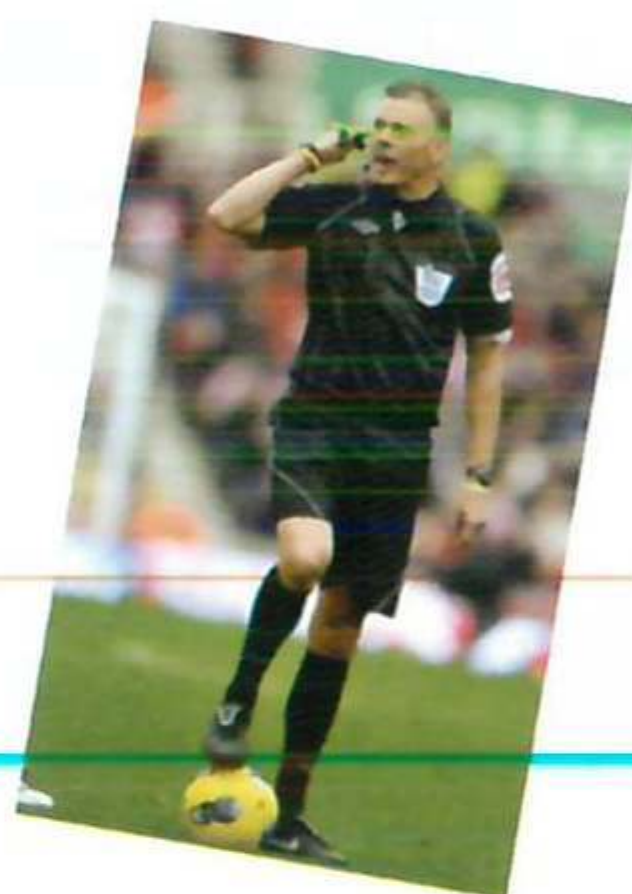
BOLTON

The name Bolton derives from the Old English bothel and tun, meaning a “settlement with a special building” and can be found ten miles north of Manchester on the A666, which is sometimes referred to as the Devil’s Highway by note of its numeric designation.

With a population of just under 140k, of which 51.3% are female, its residents had an average age of 35 in the 2001 census, two years younger than the figure for England and Wales.

Here are ten more things you might or might not know about the town!

- 1 – This is another 'textile derby' as Bolton was a centre for wool and cotton weaving from the 15th century when Flemish weavers settled in the area.
- 2 – The town wasn't popular locally in the Civil War. It was a lone Parliamentary outpost in a staunchly royalist region. In 1644 the town was stormed by 3,000 Royalist troops, killing 1,600 residents.
- 3 – Two Premier League referees are Boltonians. Mark Halsey lives in the area whilst Lee Mason was born there. As was another top flight ref and 1975 League Cup final official Gordon Hill.
- 4 – Referee's haven't always been popular in the town. In 1883 the club was threatened with expulsion from the Lancashire FA when ref Sam Ormerod was booed off the pitch and then assaulted at the railway station (which is probably going a bit far, to be fair!)



- 5 – Tenuous 'football/science' link.. Harry Kroto was part of the team who discovered 'Buckminsterfullerene' – a form of carbon whose molecules look like a classic black and white football. He received the Nobel Prize in 1996 and was raised in Bolton.
- 6 – He attended Bolton School at the same time as Sir Ian McKellan.
- 7 – One local landmark is the Winter Hill Mast communications tower which at 1,035 feet is one of the tallest structures in the UK.
- 8 – Since the lights were improved in 2006, the tower is actually visible from some higher areas of Macclesfield!
- 9 – Tenuous 'lights' link.. You'd need them on during the night stages of the Le Mans 24 hour race which just so happens to be the French town that is twinned with Bolton.
- 10 – Oooh. I could crush a grape.... Stu Francis was born in the town. Crackerjack! Other famous Bolton lads are Peter Kay, Vernon Kay and Mark Radcliffe.



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Bolton Wanderers

**Football historian
LEIGH EDWARDS profiles
six leading Bolton
Wanderers managers**

CHARLES FOWERAKER

Long-serving secretary-manager Charles Foweraker plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1923, 1926 and 1929 FA Cup final triumphs. Previously employed by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway in the goods section, he assisted Tom Mather at Burnden Park and became Bolton's secretary-manager in July 1919. He twice led Wanderers to third place in the top-flight, then guided Bolton to promotion and the FA Cup semi-finals in 1934-35. Awarded the Football League's long service medal in July 1938, he remained in charge during the war years until retiring through ill health in August 1944. He resided locally until his death in July 1950.



PHIL NEAL

Ex-England international right-back Phil Neal plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1989 Sherpa Van Trophy final success. Starting with Northampton Town, he was ever-present in 1973-74 and moved to Liverpool in October 1974. He amassed a vast collection of honours, becoming Bolton's player-boss in December 1985 and guided them to the 1986 Freight Rover Trophy final, then promotion in 1987-88. Netting three goals in 64 League games, he also twice led Wanderers to the Third Division play-offs before leaving in May 1992. He was then manager/coach at Coventry City, Cardiff and Manchester City prior to working in the media.



BILL RIDDING

Long-serving manager Bill Ridding plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1958 FA Cup final success. A former inside-forward, he had spells with Tranmere Rovers, Manchester City, Manchester United, Northampton, Tranmere again and Oldham until injury ended his playing career. He became Tranmere's trainer, then manager during the Second World War and spent five years as Bolton's trainer before succeeding Walter Rowley as manager in October 1950. Guiding them to the 1953 FA Cup final and four top six finishes in the top-flight, he resigned in August 1968 and was a physiotherapist. He died locally in September 1981.

BRUCE RIOCH

Former Scotland international midfielder Bruce Rioch managed Bolton Wanderers to the 1995 League Cup final. He won promotion with Luton in 1967-68 and Aston Villa in 1971-72, then starred in Derby's 1974-75 League Championship success. After spells with Everton and Derby again, he was Torquay's player-boss before becoming Middlesbrough's manager in March 1986. He plotted their rise to the top-flight, then managed Millwall and took charge of Bolton in May 1992. Guiding them to promotion in 1992-93 and 1994-95, he left in June 1995 to become Arsenal's boss, then managed Norwich City and Wigan Athletic.



IAN GREAVES

Ian Greaves plotted Bolton Wanderers' 1977-78 Second Division title triumph. Initially with Manchester United, the full-back helped win the League Championship in 1955-56 and was an FA Cup finalist in 1958. Later with Oldham Athletic and Altrincham, he became Huddersfield's boss in June 1968 and led them to the Second Division title in 1969-70. He was Bolton's manager from October 1974 until January 1980, taking them to the League Cup semi-finals in 1976-77. Following spells in charge of Oxford United and Wolves, he guided Mansfield to promotion and Freight Rover Trophy success. He died in January 2009.



SAM ALLARDYCE

Sam Allardyce managed Bolton Wanderers to the 2004 Carling Cup final. Signing professional for Bolton in November 1971, the central defender starred in the 1977-78 Second Division title triumph and moved to Sunderland in July 1980. He later played for Millwall, Coventry, Huddersfield, Bolton again, Preston and West Brom, becoming Blackpool's boss in July 1994. Managing Notts County to the Third Division title in 1997-98, he rejoined Bolton as manager in October 1999, guiding them back to the Premiership in 2000-01 and UEFA Cup qualification. He left in May 2007, since managing Newcastle, Blackburn and West Ham.



CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS



Football historian **LEIGH EDWARDS** selects ten post-war Bolton Wanderers 'Classic Campaigns'.

1952/53

Bill Ridding guided Bolton Wanderers to the FA Cup final in 1952/53. Bolton fielded an all-international forward line and overcame a disappointing start to climb the First Division table with just one defeat in 11 matches. They lost 6-4 at home to Arsenal on Christmas Day but John Wheeler scored three goals in a 4-0 victory over Blackpool, then top scorer Nat Lofthouse also netted hat-tricks as Bolton beat Middlesbrough 5-3, Sunderland 5-0 and Newcastle 3-2. In the FA Cup they defeated Fulham 3-1, Notts County 1-0, Luton 1-0, Gateshead 1-0 and Everton 4-3 before losing 4-3 to Blackpool in the epic 'Matthews final' at Wembley.

1957/58

Nat Lofthouse starred as Bolton Wanderers won the FA Cup in 1957/58. Bill Ridding's side lost 6-1 at Wolves in their second match but remained unbeaten in their next six games, winning 4-0 at home to Manchester United. The floodlights at Burnden Park were officially switched on for a friendly against Hearts and Bolton gained a 5-4 victory over Sheffield

Wednesday. They won 2-1 at Arsenal and Derek Hennin grabbed a hat-trick in a 4-0 win at home to Aston Villa. Bolton beat Preston 3-0, York 3-0, Stoke 3-1, Wolves 2-1 and Blackburn 2-1 in the FA Cup before defeating Manchester United 2-0 in the final.



1972/73

Jimmy Armfield managed Bolton Wanderers to the Third Division title in 1972/73. John Byrom scored twice as Bolton kicked off with a 3-0 win over Bournemouth and they steadily climbed the table, going top with a 1-0 victory at Chesterfield in November. They drew 2-2 at home to title rivals Notts County and also reached the FA Cup fifth round, beating Chester 1-0, Shrewsbury 3-0, Charlton 4-0 and Cardiff 1-0 before losing 1-0 to Luton. Roy Greaves and Paul Jones were ever-present, while John Byrom was leading scorer as Bolton lost just two of their last 16 games and clinched the title with a 3-0 win at home to York City.

1977/78

Bolton Wanderers won the Second Division title under Ian Greaves in 1977/78. Bolton had just missed promotion in the two previous years and dropped one point in their first six matches. Frank Worthington arrived from Leicester and scored on his debut as Bolton drew 1-1 at home to Stoke, going top with a ten match unbeaten run. They trounced Cardiff 6-3 and Sheffield United 5-1, also beating title rivals Spurs en route to the FA Cup fifth round. Alan Gowling was signed from Newcastle in March, while top scorer Neil Whatmore and Jim McDonagh were ever-present as Bolton won the title with a 0-0 draw against Fulham.



1987/88

John Thomas returned and scored 22 times as Bolton Wanderers regained Third Division status at the first attempt in 1987/88. Phil Neal's side were early pace-setters after losing just one of their opening six games, with newcomers Bobby Savage and Stuart Storer helping to maintain their challenge. Bolton won 5-0 at home to Carlisle, then John Thomas netted hat-tricks as they hammered Peterborough 4-0 and Newport 6-0. David Felgate was ever-present, while other stars were Mark Came, Julian Darby, Trevor Morgan, Derek Scott, Dave Sutton and Steve Thompson as Bolton clinched promotion with a 1-0 victory at Wrexham.

Bolton kicked off with a 1-1 draw at Port Vale, racing to the top of the table with just one defeat in their first 16 matches and trouncing Grimsby 6-1. They beat Chelsea and Spurs en route to the Coca-Cola Cup fifth round and newcomers John Sheridan, Jamie Pollock and Bryan Small helped Colin Todd's side to maintain the title challenge. Bolton hammered Swindon 7-0 and were unbeaten in their last 14 games, winning the championship with a record 98 points.



1992/93

Andy Walker netted 26 goals as Bolton Wanderers won promotion in 1992/93. Bruce Rioch replaced Phil Neal as manager and Bolton overcame a poor start, with new signing John McGinlay scoring in a 2-2 draw at Chester that launched a thrilling 15 match unbeaten run. Newcomer David Lee impressed as Bolton slammed four goals past Fulham and Burnley, then trounced Bradford City 5-0. They beat Liverpool en route to the FA Cup fifth round and Jason McAteer secured a regular slot as Bolton lost just one of their last 19 games. Keith Branagan and Alan Stubbs also starred as they finished Second Division runners-up.



2000/01

Sam Allardyce managed Bolton Wanderers to First Division play-off final glory in 2000/01. Bolton had qualified for the play-offs in the two previous seasons and new signings included Anthony Barnes, Simon Charlton, Ian Marshall and Michael Ricketts. They kicked off with a 1-1 draw at home to Burnley, then won their next six matches to emerge as early pace-setters. The unbeaten start ended with a 2-0 defeat by leaders Fulham but Bolton remained in contention and Colin Hendry arrived from Coventry in December, helping them to qualify for the play-offs in third position. Wanderers defeated Preston 3-0 in the final.



1994/95

Bolton Wanderers won promotion and were Coca-Cola Cup finalists in 1994/95. New signings included Mixu Paatelainen, Fabian De Freitas and Richard Sneekes, with Bolton again overcoming a poor start and remaining unbeaten in 26 successive home games. Bruce Rioch's side went top in February after trouncing Charlton and Wolves 5-1. In the Coca-Cola Cup they defeated Ipswich 4-0, Sheffield United 2-1, West Ham 3-1, Norwich 1-0 and Swindon 4-3 before losing 2-1 to Liverpool in the final. Bolton qualified for the First Division play-offs in third place and beat Reading 4-3 in their second Wembley final of the season.



2003/04

Bolton Wanderers were Carling Cup finalists under Sam Allardyce in 2003/04. They lost 4-0 at Manchester United on the opening day but lost just one of their next seven Premiership games and held a mid-table placing for the most of the season. Ivan Campo, Kevin Davies and Jussi Jaaskelainen were ever-present, while Kevin Nolan and Jay Jay Okocha also starred. Five successive victories during the closing weeks saw Bolton finish eighth in the top-flight. Wanderers defeated Walsall 3-1, Gillingham 2-0, Liverpool 3-2, Southampton 1-0 and Aston Villa 5-4 in the Carling Cup before losing 2-1 to Middlesbrough in the final.



1996/97

John McGinlay scored 24 times as Bolton Wanderers stormed to the First Division title in 1996/97. Danish stars Per Frandsen and Michael Johansen made their debut as



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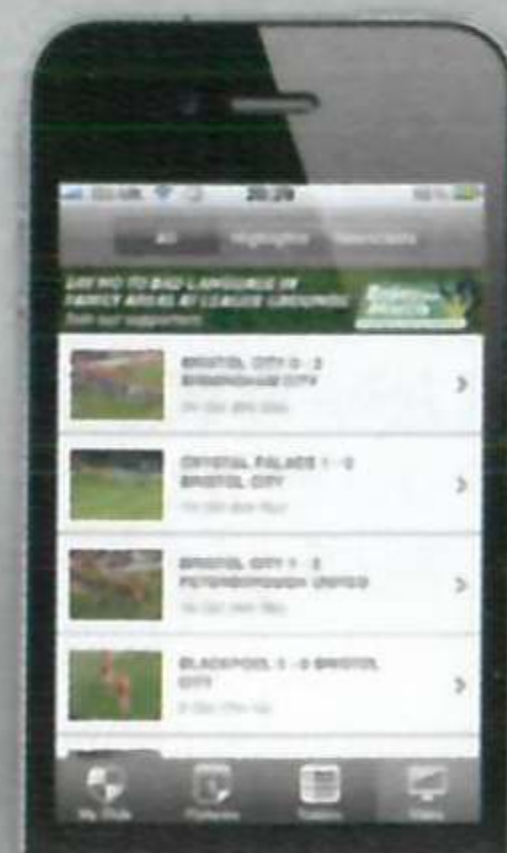
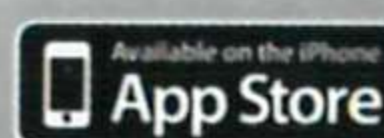
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GIVEN his theatrics against Arsenal on the opening day of the season, Joey Barton can hardly complain about opposition players taking

a dive. Nevertheless, it's fair to say that Norwich star Bradley Johnson conned the ref into believing he'd been head-butted by the notorious QPR midfielder during last week's game at Loftus Road.

Johnson's reel back/clutch face routine was good, but in the pantheon of great dives, it's got nothing on this lot.

JURGEN KLINSMANN

THE original and still the best! Pelting down the right wing during the 1990 World Cup final, Germany striker Jurgen 'the springboard' Klinsmann saw Pedro Monzon coming a mile off. The Argentina full-back launched into a challenge but, long before he made impact, Klinsmann was soaring through the air. Upon landing, he bounced, rolled and spasmed like the pitch was electrified and even kept up the act whilst the physios 'treated' him. These days, no referee in the world would



have fallen for it, but Monzon was sent off and Germany went on to win 1-0.

RIVALDO

DURING Brazil's game against Turkey at the 2002 World Cup, Hakan Unsal booted the ball at Samba star Rivaldo, who was waiting to take a corner. It connected with his shin but, somehow, the impact caused an agonising pain in the Brazilian's face, which

he went down clutching like he'd suffered an acid attack.

Unsal was sent off, Rivaldo was condemned and later fined £5,100 by FIFA. He was, however, unrepentant. "Obviously the ball didn't hit me in the face, but I was still the victim," he said. "I did not hit anyone in the face!



Nobody remembers what that Turk did to me. I'm not a player who fakes fouls."

PETER SCHMEICHEL

Born and raised on a Liverpool council estate, rotund striker Micky Quinn wasn't shy about using his fists – he once chinned John Fashanu after thinking the Wimbledon striker had knocked out his Portsmouth team-mate Billy Gilbert, though it turned out Gilbert had simply slipped and fallen over!

So when Peter Schmeichel started giving Quinn lip in 1993, he should have known what to expect. Quinn launched a haymaker, missed by miles, and the Man United keeper hit the deck. The ref was conned and Quinn was shown red.

ROBERTO ROJAS

For sheer audacity, the best dive in history. Losing 1-0 to Brazil and facing up to the prospect of missing the 1990 World Cup, Chile keeper Roberto Rojas had long ago thought of a contingency plan. So when a flare landed on the pitch, Rojas leapt into the smoke, sliced his own forehead with a razor blade hidden in his glove, and lay writhing in agony. The game was abandoned, but later awarded to Brazil after the dastardly plot came to light. Chile were banned from the next two World Cups and Rojas never played again.

By Chris Dunlavy

Programmes

Despite the onset of the mobile world in which we live in, the football programme is as much a part of the match day experience as the game itself, and over time has changed beyond all recognition.

A five minute read for some, a treasured memento for others they also help conjure up great memories and over the course of the current campaign, with the help of Macc fan Matt Davies we will be taking a look back at a selection of Silkmen programmes over the years.

In this issue we thought it only right to focus on previous FA Cup 3rd Round encounters, all eight of them in fact but with a special focus on our trip to Port Vale back in January 1988.

THE MATCH:

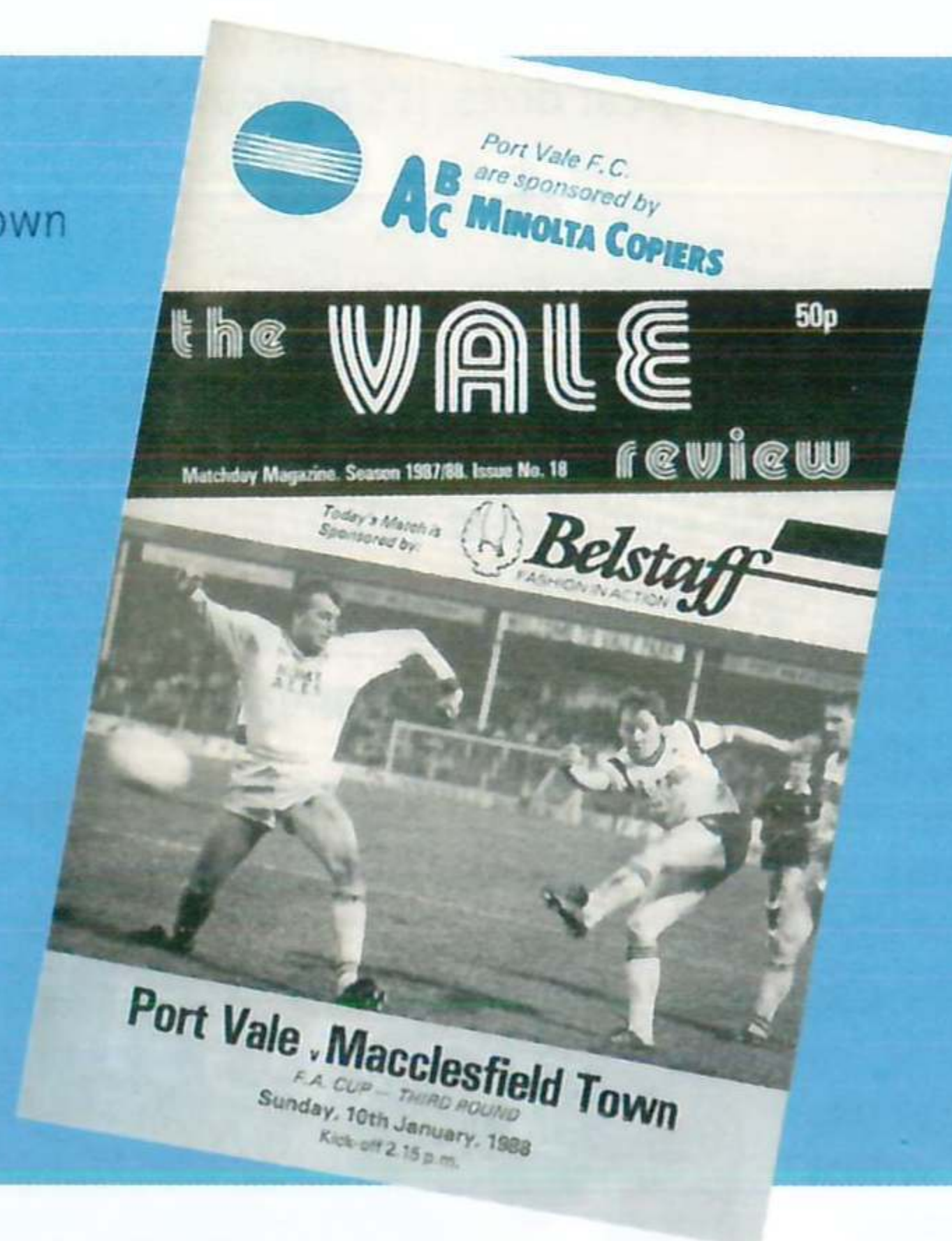
Port Vale vs Macclesfield Town

THE DATE

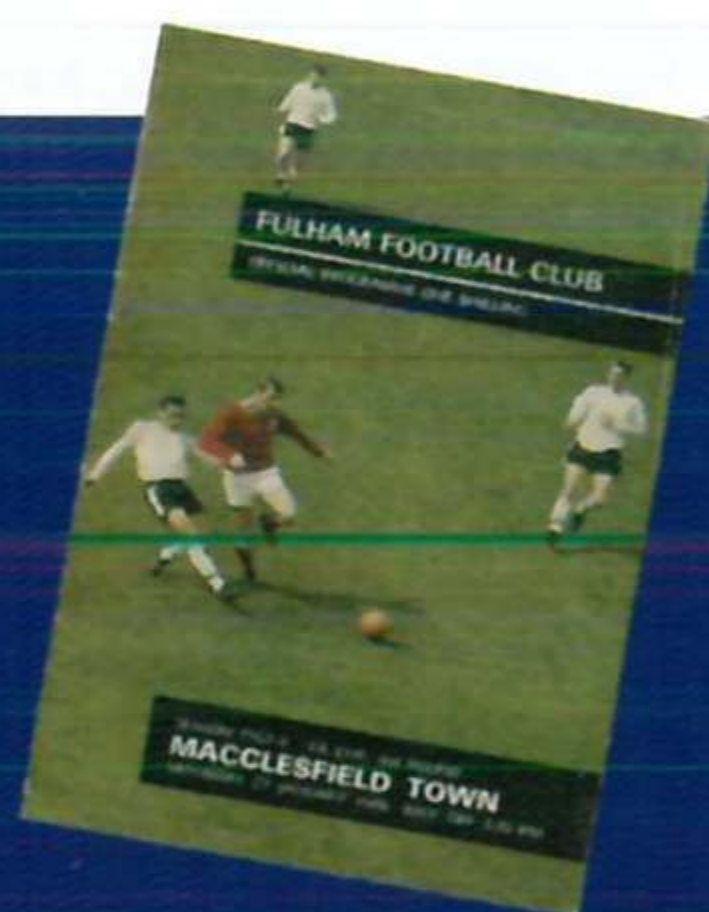
Sunday 10th January 1988

THE PROGRAMME

Surprisingly the programme ran to just 24 pages with colour print limited to the front and back covers. It was reflected in the price of just 50 pence.



THIRD ROUND GALLERY



Fulham
27th Jan 1968
20 pages / 1 Shilling



Coventry City
2nd Jan 1999
32 pages / £1.50



West Ham United
6th Jan 2002
60 pages / £2.50

The players have battled well without just reward for their efforts.

The prolonged sequence of not winning, that has frustrated all factions of the club, has amazed me considering the way the team has played. To go to Rothmans and lose 1-0 after outplaying them added to the agony and was not the first time this has happened this season.

It is the nature of the performance rather than the results that still sometimes me we are not for short of being a good team. The squad is probably as good as any at this club in my eight years with Port Vale and since we turn the corner I am sure we will blossom.

Keep them close and we will blossom.

Our experiences against Enfield six years ago, when I shared no doubt by Phil Sorenson as the only survivor in the team, will serve as a reminder as to what can happen, and Manchester will be reaching the challenge in store.

After home wins against Carlisle and Rotherham, both by four goals at the Moss Road ground, in previous rounds there will be a great lack of confidence and it would be a cruel twist of fate if we even if we were on the crest of a wave.

League form, though, tends to count for little in cup competitions and the only ray of sunshine through our current barren spell in Division III have been previous barren spells in Cup, with home wins against Town by the FA in Huddersfield County.

much has been made of our run of 12 league games without a win but I remain confident that the kids will deliver the goods this afternoon to put us in the hat again tomorrow.

Despite the nightmare run I still maintain it is not been for lack of effort. The exception is to be at Mansfield, where we were poor open to criticism, but in general I believe

will be disappointed to miss today's game as he is cup-tied, but as a talented and multifaceted player he will have an important role to play in the remainder of the season.

York, will see on-York team mate Gary Ford, and in those big cup-ties for York, Gary will live Liverpool and Arsenal, and at the end of the day he has a lot of games under his belt.

an industrious wide player with a scoring knack and if he can knock in a few goals, it would go a long way towards making him a first choice player for any team and if he can stand to the nub of the game then all players confidence and boost performance.

Paul Maguire battles for the ball v Norms County
(Photo by the Staffordshire Sentinel)

[illegible]

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THE MAGIC OF THE CUP

Every one has their own memories of the FA Cup. For those old enough it might be Charlie George's celebrations at Wembley back in 1971 after scoring the winner against Liverpool.

It may be Ronnie Radford's thunderbolt of a shot the following season to defeat the mighty Newcastle United on what can only be described as a quagmire of a pitch. Despite only making just over a 100 appearances in his career, Radford is still very much part of the game's folklore some forty years later.

In more recent times some have suggested the interest in the Cup is waning. That certainly seemed to be the case when Manchester United chose not to enter back in 2000/01 to allow them to compete in the World Club Championship. In many ways however it served to rekindle our love affair for the greatest competition in the world, whilst also resulting in a lot of criticism heading Old Trafford's way. Thankfully normality has been restored and whilst many Premier League clubs, and even some in the Championship



AN EXCITED YOUNG CHAIRMAN ON A TRAIN TO SOUTHAMPTON TO WATCH WATFORD IN JAN 1960.

will choose to field what people would deem to weakened sides nothing can detract away from the excitement that comes with the start of the 3rd Round.

It's a view shared by Macclesfield Town Chairman Mike Rance.

"FA Cup Third Round Saturday is the best day in the football season - as long as you're in the hat! As a youngster watching my home team, Watford, I had some amazing days out at Southampton, Birmingham and Liverpool but I've also enjoyed all Macc's 3rd round forays since the mid eighties."

"I was at Vale in 1988 only to be devastated by their late winner and at the Vetch in 2004 when we were the width of the bar from getting the draw that would have put us into the 4th Round hat for first time. But the stand out experience was the West Ham game in January 2002, not

so much for the game but the battle with the elements to get it on in front of the Match of the Day cameras - it was team spirit at its best!

"Nothing would please me more than for us to pull off a surprise today and make the 4th round for the first time in our history after so many near misses.

Its memories like Mike's, and countless others that will ensure this competition runs and runs and perhaps in forty years time people will be reminiscing about the day the Silkmen beat the might of Bolton Wanderers. Now that would be nice.



PITCH BATTLES AHEAD OF WEST HAM GAME IN 2002

ROARY'S ROAR



Welcome along to the Moss Rose for this afternoon's game against Bolton Wanderers! Excited? Well I certainly am and I cannot wait for the action to get underway.

The FA Cup is a competition respected throughout the world and pictures from our game are sure to be seen as far afield as Australia and even back in my home continent of Africa!

So I'll be sure to look my best in front of the cameras just in case any of the family is watching back at home!

What a great way to start 2012 at the Moss! Bring it on!

Enjoy the game and hope to see you back here next Saturday when Torquay make the long trip up from Devon.

– Roary

ROARY'S TEASERS

I thought I would test just how much you know about the FA Cup today. So there are a few tricky questions to test the old grey matter below!

Cup Teasers

- 1. Can you name the four companies who have sponsored the FA Cup?
- 2. Who was the last club to win the cup whilst outside of the top flight and in what year?
- 3. Along with Bolton, who were the other beaten semi-finalists in last year's competition?
- 4. How many teams entered this season's competition (+/- 50)?

Wordsearch

In the box I've hidden ten words vaguely associated with this afternoon's game.

BOLTON
TROTTERS
WEMBLEY
COYLE
REEBOK
UNDERDOG
SHOCK
ROUND
CROWD
TICKET

They can be either read up or down, diagonally and even the wrong way round. Can you find them?

Find Roary

I've also hidden myself on three pages of today's programme. Can you spot where I am?

Enjoy the game
Roary

N	T	L	O	N	O	T	L	O	B
G	F	R	A	T	E	R	C	K	T
G	G	S	S	S	H	O	C	K	K
O	H	E	T	D	O	T	S	O	X
D	A	M	C	N	N	T	B	W	D
R	E	V	O	U	E	E	E	I	W
E	R	O	Y	O	E	R	P	N	O
D	D	R	L	R	T	S	I	S	R
N	O	Y	E	L	B	M	E	W	C
U	T	E	K	C	I	T	E	M	A

ANSWERS
Cup Teaser 1. Littlewoods, Axa, E.ON and Budweiser. 2. West Ham (1980). 3. Manchester United. 4. 762.
Find Roary I was hidden on pages: 27 – 38 – 52
Spot the Difference 1. No Adidas logo on Carl Tremarco's shirt. 2. A 2 is missing from the telephone number top right. 3. Blue trim missing from Kevin Davies' right sock. 4. Fan has disappeared from the stairwell to the left. 5. White collar trim missing on Nat Brown's shirt. 6. First Reebok logo to the right of Carl Tremarco has gone

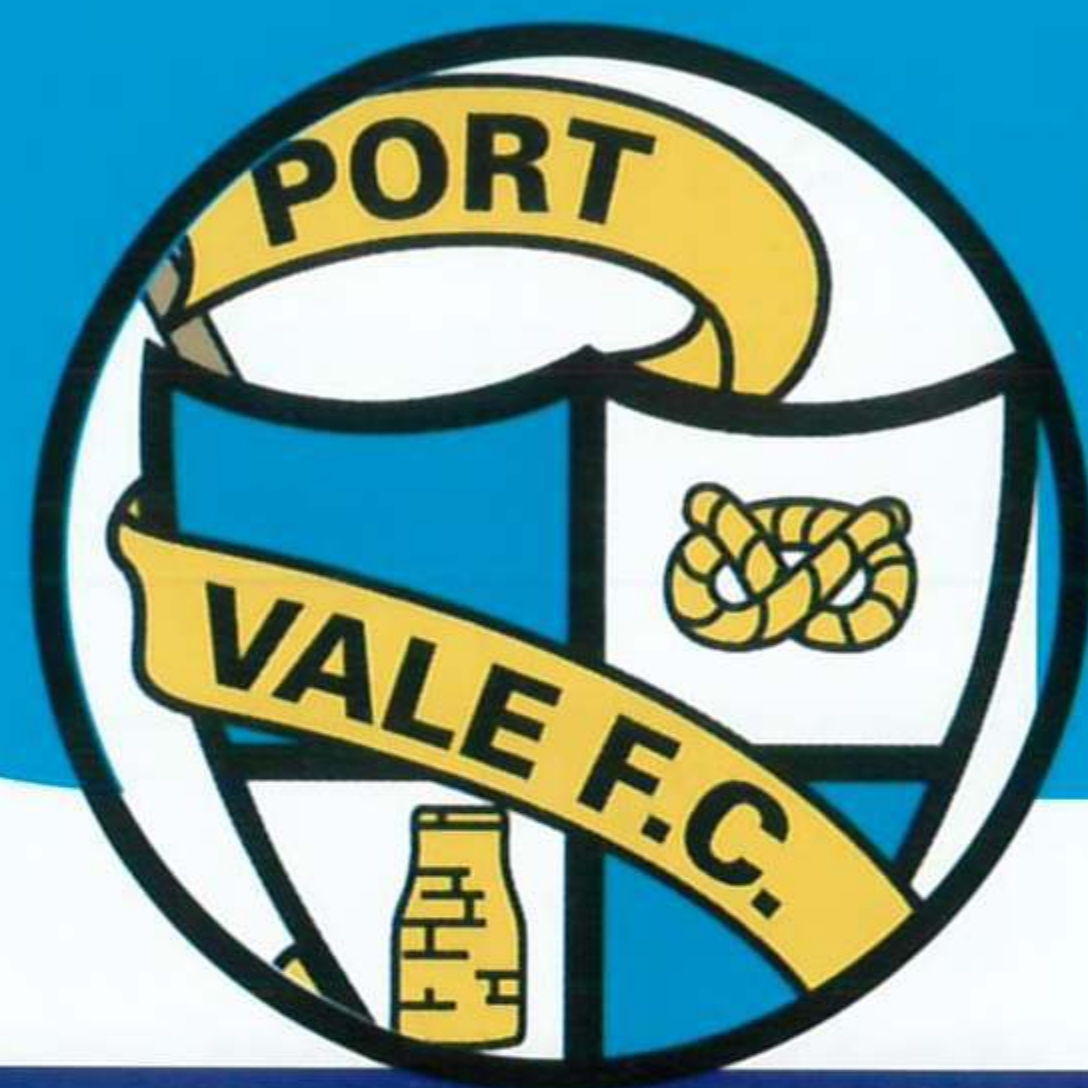
ROARY'S SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Here's an action shot taking during our game with Bolton at the Reebok earlier this season. The picture at the bottom has had six alterations made to it – can you spot them all? Answers at the bottom of page 32.

– Happy hunting



Action Replay



versus **PORT VALE**

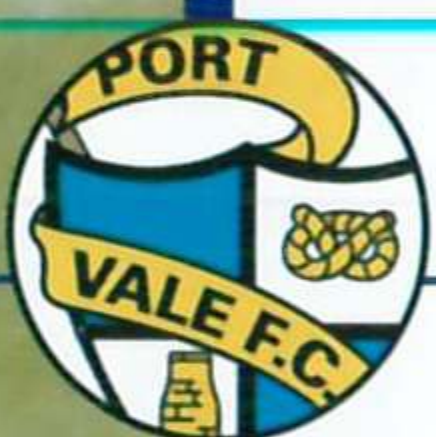


Saturday 31st December 2011

Macclesfield Town

2

Tomlinson (og) 37, Donnelly 71



Port Vale

1

Richards 61

Pictures courtesy of
Peter Hilton Photography

Match Report



George Donnelly's second half solo strike gave Macclesfield their first win in eight and ensured a happy end to 2011. The Silkmen had earlier gone in front when Matthew Hamshaw's long range strike hit the bar and went in off keeper Stuart Tomlinson before substitute Marc Richards equalised for Vale just after the hour.

The Silkmen started positively shooting towards the packed away end and forced a string of early corners and dangerous long throws. Although the Silkmen looked most dangerous from set pieces they were playing some neat football at times and looked by far the better side with the visitors rarely making it into Macc's half.

The Silkmen took the lead in spectacular fashion in the 36th minute when Jon Bateson's long throw was cleared out to Hamshaw. From 25 yards he blasted the ball back goalwards with the outside of his foot and with the keeper diving full length the ball cannoned down off the crossbar and across the line off his back.

George Donnelly nearly doubled the lead on the stroke of half time, the striker's thunderbolt of a free kick ricocheting down off the underside of the bar and away to safety.

Hamshaw took a knock just before the break and was replaced by Elliott Hewitt on the right of midfield when the teams came back out for the second half. Looking much the stronger it was hardly against the run of play when they levelled.

Loft's cross from the left evaded Tom Pope and came to Richards, who having been on the field for just four minutes, was allowed far too much space to stoop and head down past Veiga into the bottom corner.

A number of very competitive challenges saw the game full of battling in midfield and it could have swung either way with both sides not happy with just a point.

The game's defining moment came with just under 20 minutes to go when Bateson cleared off the line to deny substitute Ben Williamson from scoring with his very first touch and a minute later the Silkmen had gone up the other end to regain their lead.

With the visitors pushing men forward to find a second themselves, the ball was cleared to Donnelly who had just one defender back with him. The Macc man twisted and turned dribbling from left foot to right from the halfway line and just before reaching the box drilled a low effort past the dive of Tomlinson and into the net for this fourth of the season.

The Silkmen could have made it three in stoppage time when Daniel hit a swerving left footed drive which was well parried at the near post. Macc were able to hold onto the ball for most of the remaining injury time and although today outnumbered the home fans will have gone home with a much better way to start their New Year celebrations.



MATCH STATS

	SILKMEN	VALE
Possession	48%	52%
Attempts on target	3	8
Attempts off target	4	2
Corners	5	6
Fouls	15	10

LOOKING BACK AT 2011

As we welcome the New Year, it's apt that we look back at the events of the last twelve months, which will be remembered as the year in which tragedy struck the club for the second time in as many seasons.

JANUARY

After just two matches in December as the weather closed in, the Silkmen began the year in 12th place in League Two and visited Bury on New Year's Day 2011. New loan signing Dan Gray went straight into the starting line-up and scored the Silkmen's second as they went 2-0 up, but were pegged back by two goals in the last seven minutes. Macc were back at home two days later, though Rotherham took the points with a 2-0 win.

But the club was rocked on January 9th with news of the tragic and untimely death of Richard Butcher at just 29. Fans and players alike were stunned at the news, coming as it did just 10 months after the death of Keith Alexander. The game against Burton, originally scheduled for January 15th was postponed as a mark of respect. The Silkmen laid wreathes and released 30 white doves on what would have been Butch's 30th birthday, a 1-1 home draw with Barnet.

A tragic and emotional month ended with a 4-1 loss at Southend.

Butch's last goal for the Silkmen had come in the New Year's Day game at Bury and it was Gary Simpson who summed the terrible sense of loss best:

"You couldn't ask for a better professional than Butch. He was a great person and a great role model for the younger lads and it's an understatement to say that he leaves a massive void in our lives."

RIP Butch. Your spirit lives on.

Life at the Reebok: Tragedy also struck today's visitors, Bolton Wanderers, as club legend Nat Lofthouse died aged 85. The Lion of Vienna scored 255 goals in 452 appearances from 1946–1960, as well as an incredible 30 in 33 appearances for England.

Elsewhere in Football: Tributes for Butch poured in as the Silkmen retired the number 21 shirt in his memory. Most will remember Gary-Taylor Fletcher's emotional tribute after giving Blackpool the lead against Liverpool, but Sergio Torres at Crawley and Craig Mackail-Smith at Peterborough also paid tribute after scoring.

Elsewhere, Andy Gray was sacked and Richard Keys resigned from Sky Sports amid a sexism storm that Keys later referred to as 'prehistoric banter'.



FEBRUARY

Despite the shock of Butch's death, tough tests came thick and fast in February. Tony Diagne had arrived at the Moss on loan while Sam Wedgbury went out on loan to Altrincham. The month began with defeat in the home game with Bury before three consecutive away matches returned five points, the highlight a 4-1 win at Stockport – the Silkmen's first win in three months.

Another win, 2-0 at home to Morecambe, continued an excellent mini-run before the final game of February saw Wycombe run out 1-0 winners at the Moss, most notable for the 22-man brawl and three red cards (Sappleton and Sinclair for Macc) in stoppage time.

Life at the Reebok: February was also an eventful month for Wanderers as two consecutive victories over Wigan and Fulham took them into the sixth round of the FA Cup. A 1-1 draw away at Newcastle saw them finish the month seventh in the Premier League.

Elsewhere in Football: Plymouth Argyle issued a notice for administration, resulting in a 10-point deduction which left them 10 points off safety at the bottom of League One.



MARCH



Following numerous postponements over the winter, eight league matches awaited the Silkmen in March. The first test of the month was against Crewe in the Cheshire Senior Cup semi-final, in which events followed a familiar turn as the Silkmen crashed out 2-1 after extra time. Four consecutive weeks of Saturday-Tuesday scheduling saw the Silkmen lose at Port Vale before winning 1-0 at home to Crewe and away to Northampton, then drawing with Lincoln (1-1) and Torquay (3-3) at the Moss. A 2-1 win away at Morecambe followed before a 4-0 defeat at home to Stevenage and a 3-2 loss away at Burton Albion – although the Silkmen recorded their fastest ever Football League goal (at that point) as Emile Sinclair scored after just 22 seconds.

Life at the Reebok: A further FA Cup victory, 3-2 away at Birmingham, set up a semi-final date with Stoke City at Wembley following a 90th minute winner from Chung-Yong Lee. But the month ended badly with a 1-0 defeat at Old Trafford which saw a serious injury to Stuart Holden mar an excellent performance.

Elsewhere in Football: The 'Brave John Terry wears pointless armband' debate resurfaced as Fabio Capello made the Chelsea defender captain for the Euro 2012 qualifier against Wales in Cardiff.

APRIL

April was another congested month for the Silkmen and the losing streak stretched to four on the bounce when a 4-1 defeat at Shrewsbury and a 1-0 reverse to Bradford at the Moss saw them slip to 18th. A point at home to high-flying Accrington (2-2) was a reprieve before another defeat, this time 2-1 away at Chesterfield. However, the Silkmen then went the rest of the month unbeaten as an away win at Cheltenham (1-0) was followed with a goalless draw at home to Southend. A thumping 4-2 win at Gillingham, in which the Silkmen were 3-0 up inside 16 minutes, finally secured Football League survival.



Life at the Reebok: Wanderers' big day out at Wembley ended in disappointment with a 5-0 defeat by Stoke City, but Owen Coyle's side bounced back in fine style with a 90th-minute winner from Tamir Cohen seeing off Arsenal 2-1 at the Reebok. However, it would be Bolton's last victory of the season with defeats to Fulham (3-0) and Blackburn (1-0) ending the month.

Elsewhere in Football: A Wayne Rooney hat-trick inspired Manchester United to come from behind to beat a doomed West Ham 4-2, but the striker also found himself in hot water for swearing into the lens of a Sky camera and by extension, thousands of homes.

MAY

With the players feeling the effects of the emotional rollercoaster of the previous few months and League football secured for another season, the campaign ended with a whimper rather than a bang. A single match in May saw Hereford visit the Moss and matters end all square at 1-1. The club's annual awards saw Paul Bolland named Players' Player of the Year, while Tyrone Barnett scooped the Fans award, having scored 13 goals in his first season in the Football League. The Silkmen finished the season in a highly

commendable 15th. Gary Simpson signed a new contract with the club through to the end of the 2012/13 season.

Life at the Reebok: Wanderers' poor run of form continued as they lost their last three Premier League fixtures against Sunderland, Blackpool and Manchester City to slip out of the top ten on the final day of the season, finishing 14th.

Elsewhere in Football: The Silkmen's local rivals Stockport County dropped out of the Football League along with Lincoln City, who lost 11 straight games to be relegated on the final day of the season. Former Macc boss Sammy McIlroy left Morecambe by mutual consent after a 20th place finish in League Two.



JUNE

The Silkmen's squad saw changes aplenty as Paul Bolland left for Mansfield and Izak Reid moved to Morecambe. Shaun Brisley and Sam Wedgbury signed two-year deals at the club. Later in the month, Hamza Bencherif left for Notts County, while Jon Bateson arrived from Accrington, Lewis Chalmers committed himself to Macc for another year and Scott Kay moved to the Moss Rose from Moss Side and Manchester City. A busy month in the transfer market continued as Tyrone Barnett moved to newly-promoted Crawley Town and Simmo's eye for non-league talent was evident again as Ben Tomlinson arrived from Worksop.

Life at the Reebok: Former Bolton defender Mike Doyle sadly passed away on June 27. Doyle made 40 appearances for the Whites between 1981 and 1983, scoring two goals. He was capped five times by England.

Elsewhere in Football: Transfer silly season began in earnest with Liverpool spending £16m on Jordan Henderson, while his England Under-21 team mate Michael Mancienne moved to Hamburger SV in Germany for just £1.75m. FIFA vice-president Jack Warner resigned following an investigation into corruption and bribery practice which, as he had resigned, had to be dropped.

JULY

Pre-season got into full swing as the players returned to training. Tony Diagne put pen to paper on a contract extension before the Silkmen beat Parkgate 5-3 and Buxton 3-1 in pre-season friendlies. Arnaud Mendy and Tom Fisher became Macc's newest recruits and the former scored the winner in a 1-0 victory over Congleton. A first pre-season defeat followed at Nantwich before Waide Fairhurst bolstered the Silkmen's striking options, signing on a two-year deal from Doncaster Rovers. Encouraging draws with Derby (2-2) and Chesterfield (1-1) preceded a 1-0 win at Leek and a victory by the same scoreline over Notts County.

Having played for Wales in the Under 17 Four Nations tournament in Sweden, Elliott Hewitt was called up to the Under 21 squad.

Life at the Reebok: Pre-season training kicked off at Euxton with just one new face, Darren Pratley, arriving from Swansea City. Ricardo Gardner signed a one-year extension to his contract, while Ali Al-Habsi departed the Reebok for Wigan Athletic. Tope Obadeyi also signed a contract extension as the Whites departed for a pre-season tour in the US. Matt Taylor left the club, but Burnley duo Chris Eagles and Tyrone Mears signed on three-year contracts. Nigel Reo-Coker signed on a two-year deal from Aston Villa. More chastening news arrived in the form of Chung-Yong Lee's double fracture of his lower right leg, requiring an operation and sidelining the midfielder for nine months.

Elsewhere in Football: Rushden & Diamonds were sadly expelled from the Conference National due to financial problems. FIFA's ethics committee banned president of the Asian Football Confederation, Executive Committee member and potential presidential candidate Mohammed Bin Hammam from all football activities for life.



AUGUST

Gary Simpson added John Grant to the squad as the season began in earnest. An unfamiliar home start saw the Silkmen slip to a 1-0 defeat against Dagenham, but a sensational 2-0 win at Hull in the League Cup restored some optimism. Newly promoted

Crawley continued Macc's difficult start to the campaign, but the 2-0 defeat at Broadfield was followed by an emphatic 4-0 win at Hereford, with Ross Draper scoring from 50 yards. A home draw with Bristol Rovers preceded another 4-0 win, this time at home to Wimbledon. The Silkmen met Bolton for the first time this season in the League Cup and led from the 11th minute through Emile Sinclair, before two second-half goals saw the Whites through. Sinclair left the club for Peterborough on transfer deadline day.

Life at the Reebok: A thumping 4-0 win at QPR on the opening day was followed by two tough games against Manchester City and Liverpool, which Wanderers lost 3-2 and 3-1 respectively. New signing Tyrone Mears unfortunately broke his leg in training early in the month, and Marcos Alonso faced eight weeks out with a metatarsal injury, but Owen Coyle's squad was further bolstered by the arrival of Tuncay Sanli from Stoke and Dedryck Boyata on a season-long loan from Manchester City.

Elsewhere in Football: Brighton moved into their new Amex Stadium, 12 years after its initial proposal. The most tedious transfer saga in history finally came to an end with Cesc Fabregas moving from Arsenal to Barcelona for £35m. Riots in London lead to Tottenham's home game with Everton being postponed.



SEPTEMBER

Carl Tremarco and Nat Brown signed contract extensions and another striker, George Donnelly, arrived on a month's loan from Fleetwood. Goalkeeper Steve Collis also joined the club as backup for Jose Veiga. The Silkmen returned home empty-handed from two long trips south (to Torquay, where they lost 3-0, and Cheltenham Town, 2-0), but Morecambe's visit to the Moss saw Ben Tomlinson set a new record for Macc by scoring after just 6.4 seconds, overtaking Emile Sinclair's record from March. Two more home wins, 3-1 against Northampton and 2-0 against Swindon sandwiched a disappointing 2-0 defeat at Plymouth Argyle, and Macc finished the month handily placed in 13th.

Life at the Reebok: The club was saddened by the death of former inside forward Ralph Gubbins at the age of 79. Gubbins was perhaps most famous for replacing the injured Nat Lofthouse in the 1958 FA Cup semi-final and scoring twice to send Wanderers through to Wembley. On the pitch, a chastening 5-0 defeat at Manchester United was followed by a disappointing 2-1 reverse to newly-promoted Norwich City at Carrow Road. The League Cup offered some respite as the Whites won 2-0 at Aston Villa, but a trip to the Emirates to play Arsenal resulted in another defeat (3-0).

Elsewhere in Football: Deadline day panic was largely avoided, though Arsenal signed Mikel Arteta, Andre Santos and Per Mertesacker with hours remaining. Forgotten Manchester United midfielder Owen Hargreaves signed for Manchester City.



OCTOBER



The Silkmen's testing relationship with the Johnstone's Paint Trophy continued as they were knocked out by Crewe in the 1st Round. Revenge was quick though, as following a rare away win at Aldershot and a home draw with Oxford United, Macc prevailed 1-0 at Gresty

Road. A home win against Bradford City made it four unbeaten and lifted the Silkmen to tenth in the league, before defeat to table-topping Southend curtailed the run. George Donnelly's loan period came to an end (though he returned at the end of October) and options looked slightly leaner up front following Waide Fairhurst's ankle injury, but Scott Boden was signed on loan from Chesterfield and Colin Daniel signed an extension to his contract.

Life at the Reebok: A difficult league campaign continued as Chelsea visited the Reebok and Daniel Sturridge reminded Bolton fans what they were missing with two goals in a 5-1 win. A 3-1 victory at Wigan was the high point in a month also containing defeats to Sunderland and Swansea in the league and Arsenal in the League Cup.

Elsewhere in Football: Manchester City served notice of their Premier League intentions with a 6-1 thumping of Manchester United at Old Trafford.



NOVEMBER

It was with great sadness that the club learned of the death of former player and manager Frank Beaumont, part of arguably the Silkmen's greatest ever side in the late 1960s and early 70s – one which was victorious in the FA Trophy at Wembley in the 1969-70 season. Tributes were paid before the 1-1 home draw with Accrington, which was the Silkmen's only home game of a month that included a potential FA Cup banana skin. Thankfully, after a tricky first 45 minutes, East Thurrock were dispatched 3-0. The Silkmen's two league games in November ended in defeat at Burton (1-0) and Barnet (2-1). Dan Gray returned to the Silkmen's playing ranks from Chesterfield, while his club-mate Scott Boden extended his stay by another month. The striker scored all four as Macc cruised past Witton Albion 4-1 in the Cheshire Senior Cup.

Life at the Reebok: Revenge was sweet for the Whites as they thrashed Stoke City 5-0 at the Reebok in a reverse of the previous season's FA Cup final. However, two consecutive defeats followed, at West Brom (2-1) and Everton (2-0).

Elsewhere in Football: Wanderers and the rest of the football world were left reeling by the tragic death of Gary Speed. Wales manager Speedo played 121 times for Bolton in a career spanning 677 matches and 103 goals. He is sadly missed



DECEMBER



The first game of the month saw Macc in FA Cup action again as they travelled back to Essex for a second round tie with Chelmsford City, who were eventually overcome in front of the ESPN cameras in a replay at Moss Rose. Today's home tie with Bolton is the reward as the Silkmen target revenge for the League Cup defeat in September. In the league, Macc's excellent defensive record continued with only two goals conceded in the month, but goals at the other end were proving hard to come by as two home 0-0 draws with Gillingham and Rotherham attest. A tight 1-0 defeat to Shrewsbury was the result in the Silkmen's only away league fixture in December. Macc also saw off lower-league opposition in the Cheshire Senior Cup, though penalties were needed to separate the Silkmen and Warrington Town after a 0-0 draw at the Moss. The year ended on a high however, George Donnelly's second half goal securing all three points in the local derby with Port Vale.

Life at the Reebok: Victory in what many had already billed as a relegation six-pointer at Blackburn eased some of the pressure on Owen Coyle, but Wanderers continued to struggle with defeats against Spurs, Villa, Fulham and Newcastle ending a disappointing first half of the season. The Trotters slipped to the bottom of the Premier League on the last day of 2011 despite picking up a first home draw of the season against Wolves.

Elsewhere in Football: Martin O'Neill is appointed Sunderland manager following the department of Steve Bruce. Manchester's apparent football dominance is ended as both City and United crash out of the Champions League at the group stages.



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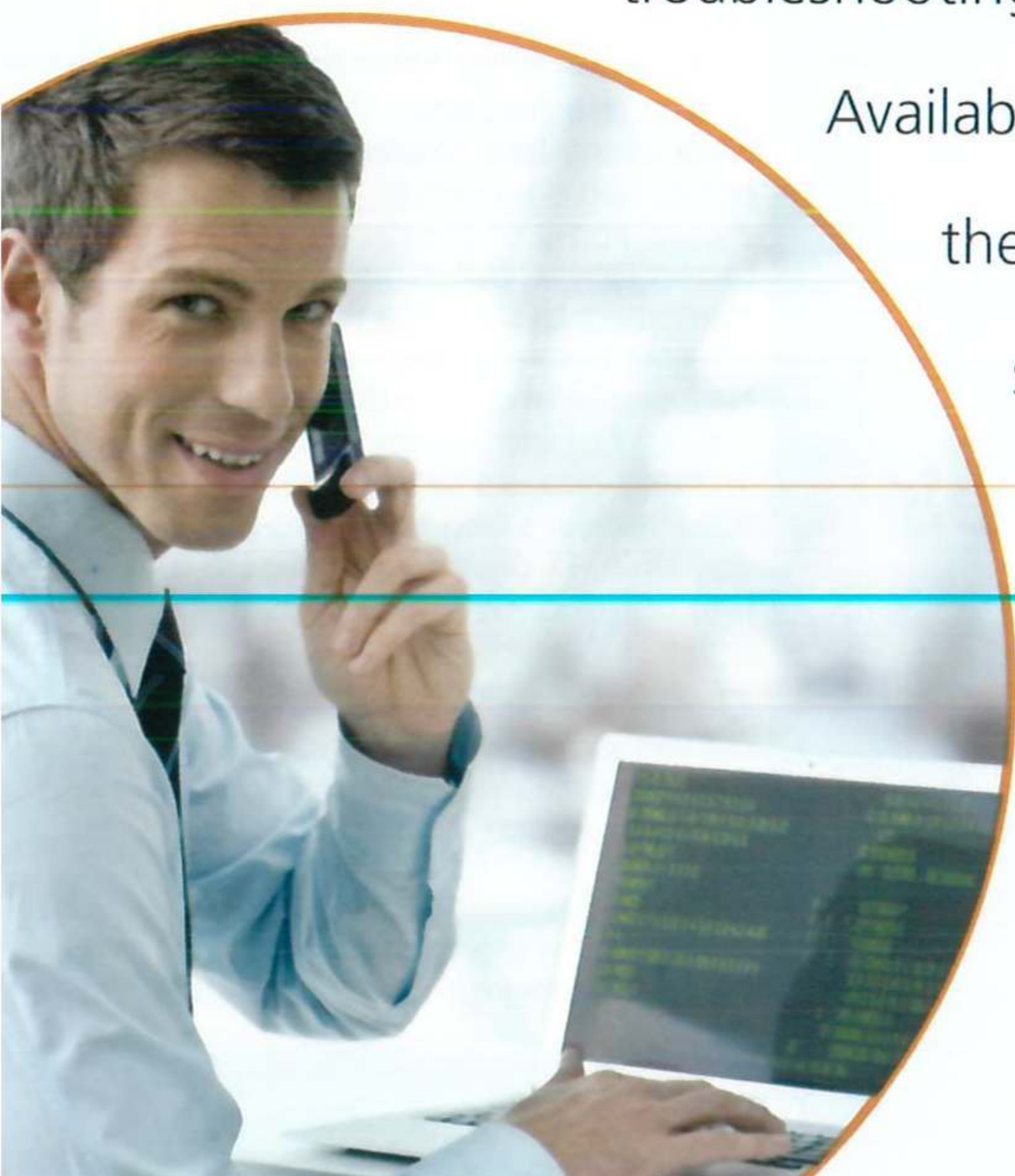
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Family?

I've not got kids yet and I've just moved in with my partner Abbey

Where do you call home?

I'm born and bred in Macclesfield, so I'm a local lad.

Who did you support as a kid?

I used to watch games here at the Moss Rose when I was growing up, but my dad's a big City fan so I also went along to Maine Road a few times, too

Who is your best mate in Football?

Gaz Evans. We were housemates when he was at Macc and lived together until I moved in with Abbey recently. Not sure how he's going to cope without me!

What is the best goal you've ever scored?

There's not been many! Probably the first senior goal I scored against Accrington. I got two that day as well, so it was a good game for me!

Who is the team joker?

It's another vote for Waide and Wedge

Who do you room with on away trips?

It's usually Drapes, but now he's injured it'll be whoever will have me!

Who do you think will win the Premier League?

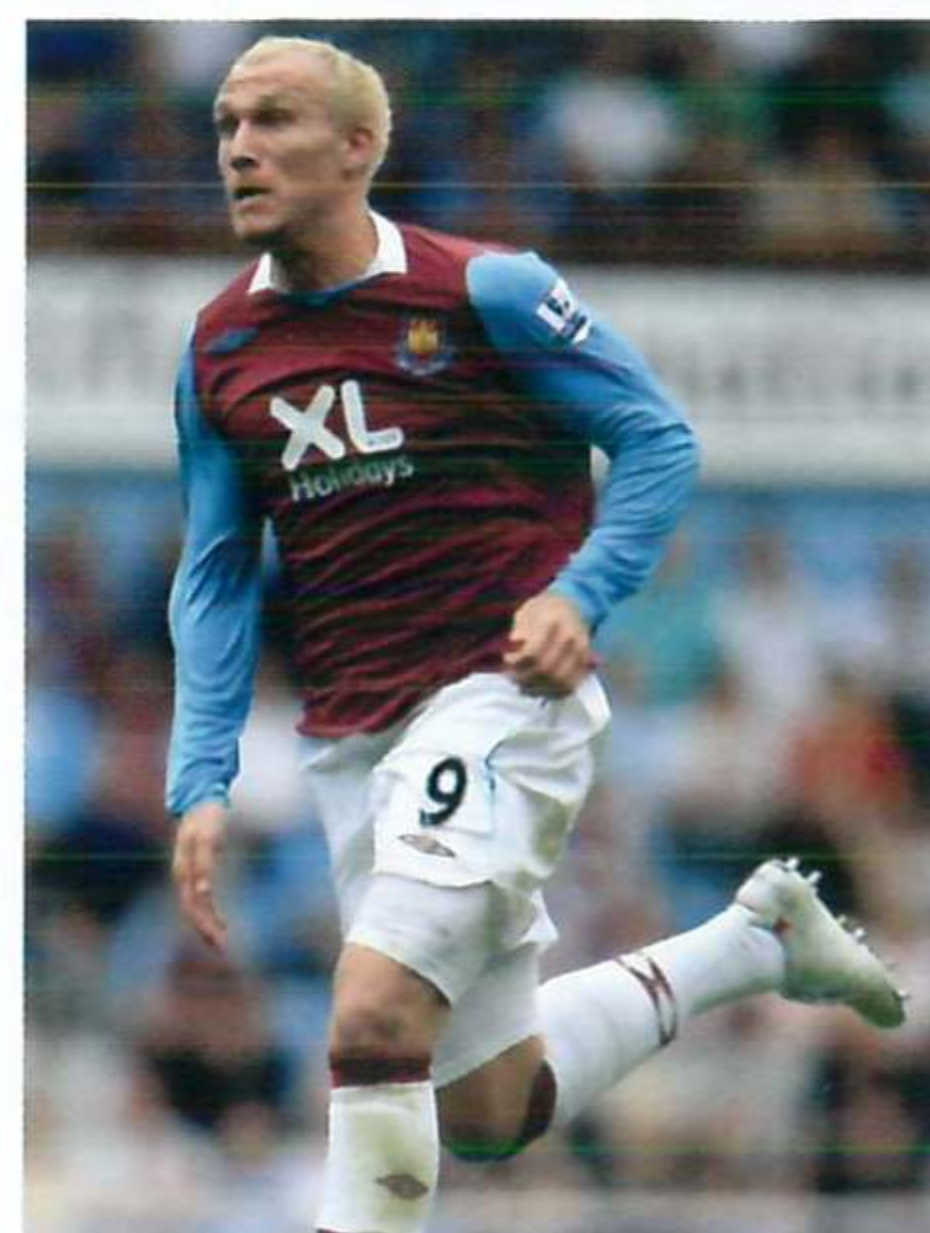
I'll have to go for City especially given the results this week

If you weren't a footballer what would you be?

I haven't got a clue! It's what I've always done so I've never thought about it

Who is the toughest player you ever faced?

There's been a few but if I had to narrow it down to one I would say it's probably Dean Ashton who I marked in the Carling Cup against West Ham a few seasons ago



Do you have any tattoos?

No. I'm not really a fan of them if I am honest

Do you have any superstitions?

Not really. I like to have the same pre match meal and stick to a similar routine before the game, but I wouldn't call it a superstition.



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FA CUP 3RD ROUND



Today's encounter at the Moss Rose is one of 32 fixtures that will take place over the weekend the highlight of which is undoubtedly the pairing of the two Manchester big guns.

City host United at the Etihad Stadium on Sunday in front of the cameras, one of five live television games over the weekend. If you are looking for a potential shock away from the Moss Rose, then we reckon Fleetwood have as good a chance as any against neighbours Blackpool, Shrewsbury may cause a surprise at Middlesbrough and as a long shot Wrexham who travel to Brighton.

Here's the full list of fixtures with a selection of the odds currently on offer to lift the trophy next May.

Played Last Night
Liverpool v Oldham

Playing Today

Birmingham v Wolves (12:30)
Dag & Red v Millwall (1pm)
Barnsley v Swansea
Brighton v Wrexham
Coventry v Southampton
Crawley Town v Bristol City
Derby v Crystal Palace
Doncaster v Notts County
Everton v Tamworth
Fleetwood Town v Blackpool
Fulham v Charlton
Gillingham v Stoke
Hull v Ipswich
MK Dons v QPR
Macclesfield v Bolton
Middlesbrough v Shrewsbury
Newcastle v Blackburn
Norwich v Burnley
Nott'm Forest v Leicester
Reading v Stevenage
Sheffield Utd v Salisbury
Swindon v Wigan
Tottenham v Cheltenham

Watford v Bradford
West Brom v Cardiff
Bristol Rovers v Aston Villa (5.30pm)

Playing Tomorrow

Man City v Man Utd (1pm)
Chelsea v Portsmouth
Sheffield Wed v West Ham
Peterborough v Sunderland (3.30pm)

Playing on Monday

Arsenal v Leeds (7.45pm)

FA CUP ODDS

11/2	Chelsea
13/2	Manchester City
7/1	Liverpool
8/1	Manchester Utd / Spurs / Arsenal
40/1	Bolton Wanderers
2000/1	Macclesfield Town

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HEAD TO HEAD



Unsurprisingly the two sides, given our opponents lofty recent status, are infrequent opponents, the two sides having met just the three times in competitive action since the Silkmen's elevation to the ranks of the Football League.

Each of these encounters came in the League Cup, although the two sides did play a pre-season friendly ahead of the 2008/09 campaign. Keith Alexander's men caused a bit of a stir of the day, Sean Hessey's goal giving them victory at the Moss Rose over their more illustrious opponents who included the likes of Ricardo Vaz Te, Ian Walker, Tamir Cohen and Blerim Dzemaili in his starting line-up.

However if that was a surprise, the events of September 2000 was without doubt a big shock!

Bolton shocked as Silkmen progress



The Silkmen enjoyed one of the best nights in the club's 128 year history when they dumped last season's semi-finalists Bolton Wanderers out of the Worthington Cup.

Having narrowly lost the First Leg of 1st Round tie at the Reebok Stadium 1-0, with David Holdsworth scoring late on, hopes were not exactly high and that looked to justified as the visitors started the game at the Moss Rose strongly.

However after weathering an early storm when David Norris, Dean

Holdsworth and John O'Kane all went close, Macclesfield took the lead on the half hour. Midfielder Ben Sedgemore latched onto a clever flick from Richie Barker to rifle home a half volley from 12 yards. Prior to the goal, Bolton, who were already without Gareth Farrelly and Mick Whitlow at the back, lost South African international Mark Fish.

Macclesfield took control of the game on the stroke of half time when centre back Simon Collins set out on a jinking 50-yard run. Collins ran past five Bolton players before being tackled outside the box by Bolton keeper Steve Banks. The ball broke to Karl Munroe who chipped into an empty net from 35 yards to secure a two-goal advantage.

The 21-year-old had never scored for the Blues before and his first might prove to be his most important for the club. After half-time the Macclesfield crowd went wild when Barker put the Third Division outfit three goals up.



Barker, who had an outstanding game, capped his performance when he met a John Askey through ball on 53 minutes and without breaking stride, lobbed the keeper from the edge of the box.

Post Match Reaction

"Richie Barker was magnificent playing on his own against three quality centre backs. He could hardly walk at the end."

Peter Davenport, Macclesfield manager

"The loss of Mark Fish was a major turning point in the game ... we could not afford to lose such an imposing player."

Sam Allardyce, Bolton manager

Teams on Duty

Macclesfield Town:

Booth, Hitchin, Collins, Tinson, Abbey, Sedgemore, Barker, Durkan, Askey, Wood, Munroe.

Subs: Glover, Whitehead, Twynham, Adams, Bettney

Bolton Wanderers:

Banks, O'Kane, Bergsson, Fish, Frandsen, Hansen, Holdsworth, Norris, Barnes, Passi, Rankin.

Subs: Jaaskelainen, Ricketts, Wheatcroft, Richardson, Buchanan.

Hopes of further cup glory were extinguished in the next round, Middlesbrough proving too strong, winning both legs to advance of Round Three 5-2 on aggregate.

Early this Season

It would be another eleven years before the two sides would meet again and another shock looked on the cards when Emile Sinclair put the visitors ahead early on in the game at the Reebok.

That lead lasted until the 53rd minute when Tuncay levelled as the Premier League quality started to tell. Martin Petrov sealed the win to spare the Trotters blushes.

A Numbers Game

With one to eleven in the bag, it's going to become harder to chart some of the higher squad numbers as we continue our run down. But for this special FA Cup issue we are fortunate to focus on 14, a number that has been worn by genuine legends for both the Silkmen and the Trotters, with both still at their respective clubs.

14

FOR THE SILKMEN

He might have been best known for wearing the number seven, but by the time squad numbers reached the Football League he was at number 14, a shirt he

continued to sport until finally hanging up his boots. John Askey of course first joined the Silkmen in 1984. The former Port Vale youth player must have liked it here,

as he remains at the club successfully guiding Mick Holgate's Centre of Excellence graduates towards the senior side via the Youth Team.

After joining the club he established himself quickly in the side and was a key part of the treble winning side of 1986/87. He went on to win every non-League honour available, apart from the FA Trophy which was denied to him after a broken leg caused him to miss the 1995/96 season. But he returned to help the Silkmen into the Football League and then the 2nd Division – and enjoying his highest scoring campaign, scoring 15 in 1999/2000. The supporters' player of the year in 1989 and 2000, he played his final match against Rochdale in 2003 and came off the bench to score the



JOHN ASKEY

equaliser before diving into the crowd to celebrate. He has since managed the Silkmen's reserve side to a League title, been first team manager before taking on the youth team.

OTHERS INCLUDE

After Gentleman John, the number 14 shirt went to Martin Carruthers, who remained with the Silkmen for a year. Mike Sheron followed before Kevin McIntyre wore it for the club in his four years at the Moss Rose. Youngster John Rooney, who went on to play alongside Thierry Henry for New York Red Bulls had the number for two years before it went to Tony Diagne.

FOR THE TROTTERS

Macc's John Askey managed more than 600 games for the club which by comparison makes Bolton's 14 a mere newcomer. But Kevin Davies can still point to close to 400 games for Wanderers. After making his name at Chesterfield, the striker moved on to Southampton in 1997 for £750,000. So impressive were his performances at The Dell that



KEVIN DAVIES

Blackburn paid 10 times that amount for his services the following summer. But 12 months later he was back on the South Coast with the Saints. After leaving Southampton in 2003 he joined Bolton Wanderers where he has remained ever since, picking up an England cap in 2010.

CURRENT INCUMBENTS

Tony Diagne joined the Silkmen from Parisian side FC Municipal d'Aubervilliers last season and made an immediate impact. Comfortable in central defence as well as left back and left midfield, the former Forest man also has an eye for goal with five goals in 49 games including an excellent free kick and overhead effort in two matches against Hereford. Kevin Davies remains number 14 for Bolton and could well be wearing the number this afternoon.

FAMOUS 14S

Other notable players to wear the number are Theo Walcott, Luka Modric, United's Javier Hernandez, Xabi Alonso and perhaps most famously of all Johan Cruyff.



JOHAN CRUYFF

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Played at the Moss

**KEVIN
KEEGAN**

The Silkmen's cup exploits of the 1969/70 season are usually remembered as lifting the first ever FA Trophy at Wembley, but there was also an FA Cup First Round appearance and a visit from a player who would become a legend. Altrincham had been dispatched in the fourth qualifying round to set up a home tie with Scunthorpe, featuring a certain Kevin Keegan.

In the home match, it was the defences who came out on top with the Silkmen in particular thankful to George Sievwright who shackled the promising youngster with some full blooded challenges.

The match finished 1-1 with the Silkmen's goal coming from Dave Lyon to set up a replay at the Fourth Division side. This time Keegan took

the plaudits with two goals and a hand in two more as the Iron won 4-2. Sievwright and Dick Young hitting the net for the Silkmen.

Keegan spent another season at Scunthorpe before moving to Liverpool where, of course, he made his name with more than 100 goals in more than 300 appearances to his name.



He had a reasonably successful time at Anfield winning three League titles, two UEFA Cup medals, the FA Cup and European Cup in his time there.

He moved on to Germany to play with Hamburg (winning the Bundesliga in '79), before returning to England with Southampton and Newcastle. With these and a short cameo in Australia he played almost 850 senior matches scoring nearly 300 goals as well as an England career which earned him 63 caps, scoring 21 times.

His managerial career then took him back to Newcastle before he managed Fulham (including a 1-0 win here at the Moss Rose) and took over the England job. Four years at Manchester city followed before a short return to Newcastle.

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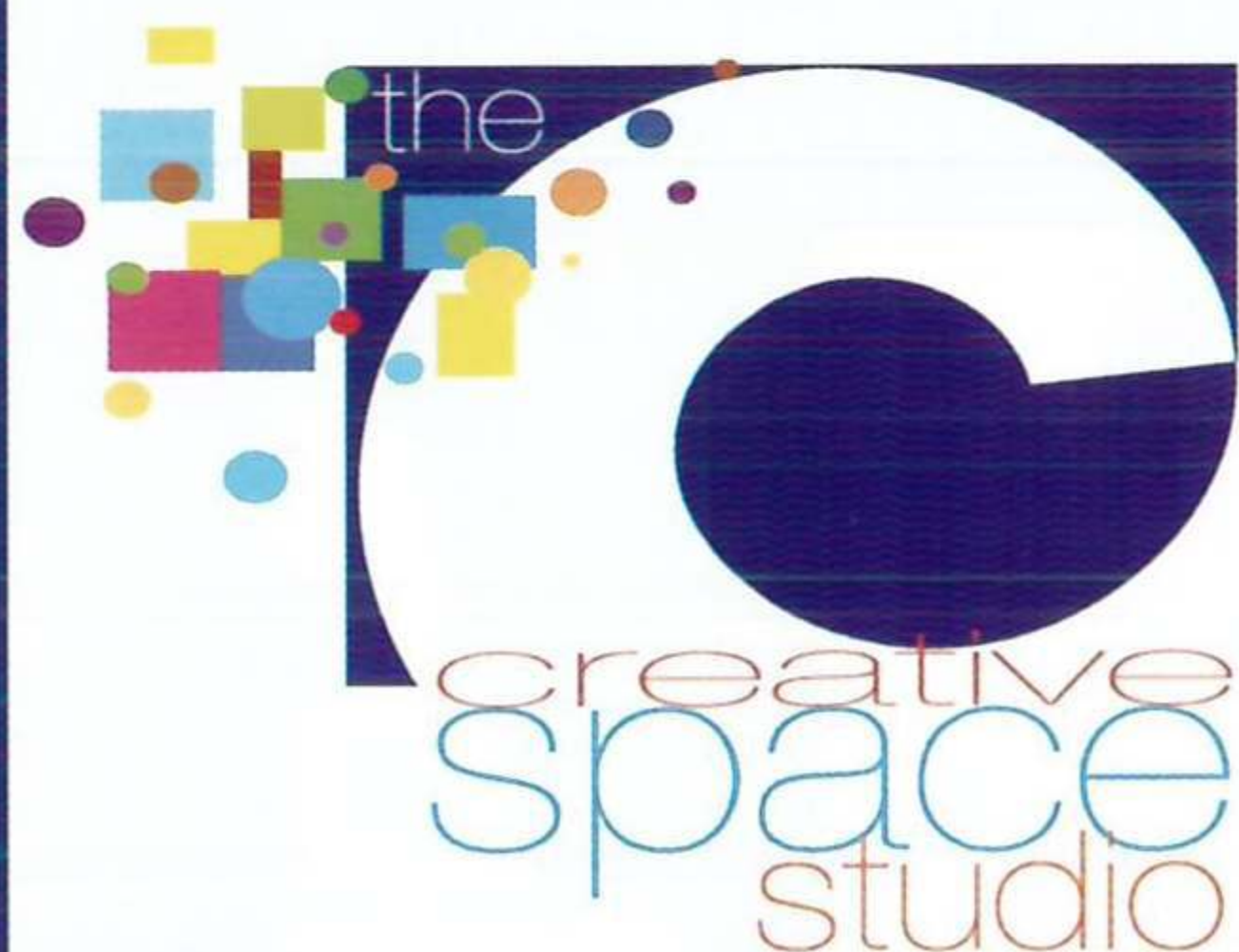
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A RICH FA CUP PEDIGREE



Bolton Wanderer's FA Cup Wembley appearances are nothing if not memorable. They have won the famous trophy four times and been runners up on a further three occasions, and inevitably there has been a story to tell.

Joe Smith, 'The Lion' and a police horse called Billy

Bolton's first win came in 1923 and was, of course, the first FA Cup final played at Wembley. In the days before health and safety, by the time 1.00pm arrived, there were enough people in the stadium to fill the ground twice over and by the time the gates closed at 1.45 it was estimated that there were 200,000 inside with further thousands laying siege to the 104 turnstiles.

The pitch was a sea of people, but the combined bands of the Grenadier and Irish Guards played on. Even King George V, when he arrived at the ground was warned that the game might not be played.

But played it was – albeit after a 45 minute delay, largely down to the good nature of the supporters present and the control of the police, highlighted by the actions of Constable George Scorey and his horse Billy.



Bolton went on to win this first Wembley final 2-0 with goals from David Jack and John Smith, and it was Smith's namesake who collected the famous trophy from His Majesty.

It was third time lucky for Bolton who had previously been beaten in the final in 1894 and 1904 by Notts County and Manchester City respectively.



The winning Bolton team on that day was: Pym, Haworth, Finney, Nuttall, Seddon, Jennings, Butler, Jack, J.R. Smith, J Smith, Vizard.

A hat-trick of wins

It was a dream spell for Bolton who won the cup three times in just seven seasons.

The next came in 1926 when David Jack scored the only goal in a 1-0 victory over Manchester City – revenge for 17 years earlier. It was only fine goalkeeping from Dick Pym that kept City at bay before Joe Smith again



collected the silverware at the end of a thrilling game. Bolton had a familiar line up that day with the only change being Greenhalgh in for Finney – three years on.

It was another three years – 1929 – when Bolton were lifting the trophy again. This time it was Portsmouth who were the beaten finalists against a



Bolton side now led by Jimmy Seddon. Bolton won again by 2-0 with goals from Billy Butler and a second in the final minute from Harry Blackmore.



Goalkeeper Dick Pym was originally a fisherman from Devon and that win saw him appearing in, and winning three finals without conceding a single goal along the

way. He was also capped once for England against Scotland at Hampden Park and lived to the ripe old age of 95.

There had been a few changes to the Bolton side in the past three years, and the winning team that year was; Pym, Haworth, Finney, Kean, Seddon, Nuttall, Butler, McClelland, Blackmore, Gibson W. Cook.

The Matthews Final

It would be 24 years before the Trotters graced the Wembley turf again as they took on Blackpool in what is known as 'The Matthews Final' and regarded as still the best ever.

Bolton led 3-1 within the hour with goals from Nat Lofthouse, Willie Moir and Eric Bell.



Blackpool's goal was from Stan Mortensen – who went on to complete a hat-trick to level the scores and Bill Perry pounced in added time from a Matthews cross to earn the Seaside a 4-3 win.

So close to victory on the day were; Hanson, Ball, Banks, Wheeler, Barrass, Bell, Holden, Moir, Lofthouse, Hassall, Langton.

The Blackpool manager on the day? Joe Smith.

United defeated in emotional Final

Five Years Later, and with the Munich disaster still raw in people's minds, it was Bolton who had the unenviable task of taking on Manchester United at Wembley in the final.

Eight Manchester United players had lost their lives in the tragedy and a team hurriedly brought together by assistant manager Jimmy Murphy in Matt Busby's absence had won many hearts and drew enough courage to beat Sheffield Wednesday, West Brom and Fulham on their emotional journey to face Bolton in North London.

But Bolton had a job to do, and that – putting sentiment to one side – was to do the occasion justice.

And led by Nat Lofthouse, 'The Lion of Vienna' – a nickname given to him following his exploits on England duty in Austria – they did just that.

Lofthouse himself scored in only the third minute of the game and the, eight minutes into the second half, challenged United

'keeper Harry Gregg, who had just palmed a Dennis Stevens shot into the air, in a



way that would certainly be penalised today (and Lofthouse himself admitted afterwards was probably a foul) before putting the ball into the back of the net – and the goal stood.

In the circumstances, Bolton probably never received the acclaim they deserved following an accomplished performance.

The teams that day were:-

Bolton; Hopkinson, Hartle, Banks, Hennin, Higgins, Edwards, Birch, Stevens, Lofthouse, Parry, Holden.

United; Gregg, Foulkes, Greaves, Goodwin, Cope, Crowther, Dawson, E. Taylor, Charlton, Violett, Webster.

Much more recently, Bolton beat York City, Wigan, Fulham and Birmingham City to get to Wembley in last season's semi-final where they lost to Stoke City in a game that most would rather forget albeit victory by the same 5-0 scoreline in the side's first Premier League meeting this season went some way to exorcise the memory.

DRESSING ROOM TALK

GLYN CHAMBERLAIN



Just like behind every good man there is a good woman, then the same rings true in football for behind every good manager there is a good assistant. At the Moss Rose that role is performed by Glyn Chamberlain who arrived at the club back in the summer of 2010.

We caught up with him in the lead up to this afternoon's game to find out a little more about him, his career and to get a better feel for his role as well as his thoughts about the season so far and the excitement of the FA Cup.

First up Glyn, tell us a bit about your playing career?

"Well it all started back in the early Seventies. I was an apprentice with Burnley who were in the old First Division at the time. I never made it into the First Team but did get to play in the Football League with first Chesterfield, my home town and then Halifax.

"I then moved into non league with Kettering before spells with quite a few clubs including a couple of weeks at Macclesfield.

Where did you play and how would you describe yourself?

"Deceptively slow I think is the best way! Most of my career was played at full back, usually on the right side but I could also play centre midfield when needed.



You then ended up in a scouting role?

"I did but that's not before I had a spell of managing just down the road at Newcastle Town. But when that finished I was asked by Arthur Cox to help out at Fulham. He left pretty quickly after that to go with Kevin Keegan to England but I was there for six years in the end.

"It wasn't so much a scouting for players job back then as it wasn't about the players so much it was more about whether you could afford them. So most of my role was to run the rule of the opposition, providing the manager with a comprehensive report on what we could expect. So I got the chance to travel the UK, visit all the top grounds and occasionally into Europe.

Then it was off to Crewe?

"That's right. I had four enjoyable years at Crewe working with Dario Gradi where the job was more about identifying and nurturing young talent. I then had six months at Burton before the chance to move to Macclesfield came about.

Do you and Gary go back a long way then?

"I first met Gary when he came as a youngster to Chesterfield back in the late Seventies and over the years we played against each other quite a few times. Hopefully he won't read this but he was a good little player. Nice left foot and still to this day he fancies himself as a bit of a Wim Jonk who finished his career at Wednesday.

"After we'd both finished playing we'd regular see each other at games around the region and we'd keep in touch on the phone. We also did our coaching badges together.

"Footballing, and scouting in particular is all about networking and I'd like to think that both Gary and I are similar in the respect that we know a lot of people, one we can pick up the phone to and ask for opinions on players.

"We also love our football which helps as already this season I reckon I must to have been to a good sixty or seventy games.

What sort of level of football?

"It varies. On Wednesday we were at Goodison Park to have a look at Bolton. It's a bit of a mixture really. Obviously between the two of us we'll try wherever possible to get to see the sides we are due to play. But when it comes to scouting for new talent you could find me anywhere. Premier League reserve games. Conferences matches. You name a ground in the North West and I've probably been to it.

So did it take much thinking to move to Macc?

"Absolutely no time at all! First up I was delighted for Gary albeit the circumstances in which he got the job you would not have wished on anyone. But no, I was delighted to be given the chance.

What have you learnt since?

"Whoever said you never stop learning in this game couldn't have been more true. Working day to day with the players you learn a lot about their mentalities and how to help them get the best out of themselves. We obviously work with a relatively small budget here at the club so its vital we maximise our potential, whilst enjoying the challenge of tackling the odds.

So is the lack of money the main frustration?

"No not at all! Personally my biggest frustration is with us. I'd say this season we've been running at something like sixty, maybe seventy percent of what we are capable of. But you have to remember that with Hamza, Tyrone and most recently Emile moving on, we've taken 35 odd goals out of the side.

"Goalscoring is the hardest thing in this game and it takes time to adjust. But I am sure in the likes of Tommo and George we've got players capable of matching the players we have lost. It's just going to take a bit of time.

"That's especially relevant when you consider that most of the players in our squad have had to deal with some recent rejection. So part of our job is to restore their confidence levels.

So talking of your job, describe a typical match day?

"Well normally on a Saturday I would look to arrive at the ground around 11am. Nine times out of ten we know the side we'll be starting with. When the lads arrive we'll run through the opposition and focus on certain players. At 2pm I'll get hold of the team sheet which very rarely throws up any surprises.

"Gary will then take our warm up and I'll usually have a look at what the opposition are doing in their warm up to see if there's anything we need to watch out for.

"Then its into the dressing room for one last chat before the game starts.

And during the game?

"Gary is very good tactically and can spot when changes need to be made. But we do share ideas and opinions so whilst its ultimately his decision, I do get involved.

So what about today's game then? Excited?

"Its going to sound a boring answer but part of the job is to ensure the lads don't get too carried away. Yes its a fantastic occasion but if we are to do ourselves justice we have to treat it like any other game. The lads don't need telling mind how important the game is. And I'm hoping that having seen it from the other side when we were clear favourites against East Thurrock and Chelmsford that they will have learnt something from that. The boot is very firmly on the other foot on Saturday as no one expects us to win.

How's the FA Cup treated you over the years?

I'd like to say well but nothing of real note to report. I was however still at Burnley when they were knocked out by Wimbledon in the 3rd Round back in 1975. It was a major shock at the time as we were in the top flight whilst Wimbledon were still a non league club. So not a happy memory even though I wasn't involved. But it again shows what this competition is about and the fact people still talk about the game close to forty years later says it all.

Finally, what are the challenges for the rest of the season?

"We're half way through our league campaign. We should have more than the 30 points we've got so far, but if we can mirror that in the next 23 games then we'll have 60 which would be an improvement on last season. Any step in the right direction is good.

"We also have to continue to work hard to balance the books. You only have to read the news about what's happened at Darlington again to highlight the need for good housekeeping.

"But that's not to say we won't be looking to improve the squad. And can I say that we've always been given the full support from the directors. They also let us get on with our jobs and it's a privilege to say I work for Macclesfield.



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MIDFIELDER
DOB: 04/02/1986 (Manchester)
Clubs: Altrincham, Aldershot, Crawley (loan), Oxford United (loan)

ROSS DRAPER



HOME SHIRT

Andrew Venables

AWAY SHIRT

Oliver Gosling

DEFENDER
DOB: 20/10/1988 (Wolverhampton)
Clubs: Shrewsbury Town, Stafford Rangers, Hednesford Town

GEORGE DONNELLY



HOME SHIRT

Oliver and Emilie Clarke

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

FORWARD
DOB: 28/5/88
Clubs: Plymouth, Stockport, Luton Town, Fleetwood Town

VINNY MUKENDI



HOME SHIRT

Margaret & Bill Milligan

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

FORWARD
DOB: 12/03/1992 (Congo)
Clubs: from Trainee

COLIN DANIEL



HOME SHIRT

Margaret & Bill Milligan

AWAY SHIRT

Marcus Richards

MIDFIELDER
DOB: 15/02/1988 (Nottingham)
Clubs: Eastwood Town, Crewe, Grays Athletic, Leek Town

ARNAUD MENDY



HOME SHIRT

James and Peter Davies

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

MIDFIELDER
DOB: 10/02/1990 (Evreux, France)
Clubs: Derby County, Grimsby Town (loan), Tranmere Rovers (loan)

JACK CUDWORTH



HOME SHIRT

AVAILABLE

AWAY SHIRT

S.E.Asia Silkmen

GOALKEEPER
DOB: 11/09/1990
Clubs: Preston North End, Rhyl Town

TONY DIAGNE



HOME SHIRT

www.
jakobebrey.com

AWAY SHIRT

www.
jakobebrey.com

DEFENDER
DOB: 07/09/1990 (Aubergenville, France)
Clubs: Nottingham Forest

SHAUN BRISLEY



HOME SHIRT

Theo Ward

AWAY SHIRT

Susan Morgan

DEFENDER / MIDFIELDER
DOB: 06/05/1990 (Macclesfield)
Clubs: from Trainee

WAIDE FAIRHURST



HOME SHIRT

Richardson Mail
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AWAY SHIRT

Geoff and Shirley
Knights

FORWARD
DOB: 07/05/1989 (Sheffield)
Clubs: Doncaster Rovers, Shrewsbury Town,
Southend United, Hereford United

SAM WEDGBURY



HOME SHIRT

Geoff and Jessie
Scott

AWAY SHIRT

Geoff and Jessie
Scott

MIDFIELDER
DOB: 26/02/89
Clubs: Sheffield United, Ferencvaros (loan)

TOM FISHER



HOME SHIRT

Cairo Blues

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

FORWARD
DOB: 22/06/1992 (Manchester)
Clubs: Stockport County

MATT HAMSHAW



HOME SHIRT

Andy & Sean Worth

AWAY SHIRT

Andy & Sean Worth

MIDFIELDER
DOB: 01/01/1982 (Rotherham)
Clubs: Sheffield Wednesday, Stockport
County, Mansfield Town, Notts County

BENTOMLINSON



HOME SHIRT

John Smart

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

FORWARD
DOB: 11/09/1990
Clubs: Rotherham United (trainee)

ELLIOTT HEWITT



HOME SHIRT

Richardson Mail
Solicitors

AWAY SHIRT

Laura and Katie
McCaig-Clark

DEFENDER
DOB: -
Clubs: From Trainee

MICHAEL THOMAS



HOME SHIRT

AVAILABLE

AWAY SHIRT

Andy Thomas

DEFENDER / MIDFIELDER
DOB: 12/08/1992 (Manchester)
Clubs: from Trainee

ADAM ROBERTS



HOME SHIRT

AVAILABLE

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

MIDFIELDER
DOB: 30/12/1992
Clubs: from Trainee

JACK LANE



HOME SHIRT

AVAILABLE

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

DEFENDER
DOB: 26/03/1993 (Winsford)
Clubs: From Trainee

GREG DANIELS



HOME SHIRT

AVAILABLE

AWAY SHIRT

AVAILABLE

FORWARD
DOB: 21/09/1993 (Manchester)
Clubs: From Trainee

GARY SIMPSON



HOME SHIRT

Oliver Gosling

AWAY SHIRT

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GLYN CHAMBERLAIN



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Elaine Rance

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Action Replay



versus **ACCRINGTON STANLEY**



Monday 2nd January 2012

Accrington Stanley

4

Lindfield 17, Long 45+1, Evans 63, Proctor 76



Macclesfield Town

0

Images courtesy of
Peter Hilton Photography

Match Report



It was another fruitless trip to Accrington for the Silkmen who despite enjoying most of the first half pressure headed home empty handed as the curse struck again, the home side scoring four from five shots on target.

Gary Simpson certainly shorn or resources ahead of kick-off, missing seven key players from the starting line-up and four who had featured in the win against Port Vale two days earlier. Despite this it was the visitors who created the early chances with Colin Daniel going close after six minutes when he hit a Shaun Brisley flick-on with a half volley which was deflected over the bar.

With ten minutes on the clock another Macc free kick was chipped over the wall to Daniel who turned his defender only to see Stanley's keeper saved at the second attempt. Moments later Waide Fairhurst could have opened the scoring the lead as he brought the ball across the edge of the box and the defence opened up in front of him, but a last-ditch tackle robbed him of a shooting opportunity.

But it was Stanley who took the lead with their first real attack of note two minutes later. The ball was played down the left and crossed to the far post to former Silkmen Craig Lindfield who in space headed past Jose Veiga. Undeterred the men in blue battled on and looked the more likely of the two teams to score but as the half wore on the home side also began to show their attacking intent with crosses twice flying through the Silkmen box with no one on the end of them.

Another Macc chance came and went when Fairhurst's pressure caused the keeper to fluff his clearance. It fell to Wedgbury, who took a touch to get it into his favoured foot but saw it nicked away when shaped to shoot.

But with the game well into first half injury time Stanley won a corner which was only cleared to the edge of the area to Kevin Long whose shot took a deflection to dip over Jose's head.

The Silkmen began the game with one of the best defensive records in the division, but with Nat Brown in the stand suspended, neither of the central defensive partnership were involved in the second period as Shaun Brisley was an enforced half time change.

The makeshift defence soon conceded a third when a cross from the left wasn't dealt with, Carl Tremarco stopped a shot on the line only for it to fall to Micah Evans to rifle home.

Sam Wedgbury saw a shot headed behind for a corner, but Accrington were full of confidence and saw a shot fly over the bar when Viegga collided with Mendy and the ball fell kindly to a red shirt.

The fourth wasn't far behind and it was Procter, a man who simply loves playing the Silkmen and could not miss with a free header.

One positive for Macc was the performance of Michael Thomas, who had been a terrier in midfield all afternoon in his first start for the club, but it was another debutant - this time from the bench - in the shape of Tom Fisher who had Macc's final chance of the game, drilling a powerful shot too close to the 'keeper.

MATCH STATS

	STANLEY	SILKMEN
Possession	52%	48%
Attempts on target	5	3
Attempts off target	3	2
Corners	4	7
Fouls	6	15

IS IT TIME FOR A BREAK?

Despite one of the mildest Decembers for many a year, the perennial discussion about the merits of a winter break are once again a major topic of debate.

The argument seems to be focusing more now on the need for rest, a chance to recharge the batteries, as opposed to avoiding the harshness of the winter's extremes.

Views vary across the leagues but given the apparent pressure building from the senior figures in the game, it may well happen. Perhaps only in the top leagues although the TV executives may just have something to say about that!

THE MANAGERS



Gary Simpson

"I'm a traditionalist. The fans want to see football being played at this time of year and as you can't predict what the weather is going to be like, it would be a bit of a lottery deciding when to take the break. Yes a rest would be nice but the reality is, clubs at our level don't have the luxury of big squads that would allow us to fit in the games into an already crowded fixture list. So a big no from me!"

Sir Alex Ferguson

"The English season is exhausting. Most Decembers, we play between eight and nine games at the worst time of the year. The pitches are heavier, the weather is worse and then in the second half of the season you'll find a lot of players at all clubs carrying strains, pulls, but, because of the importance of the games, they keep on playing. And then when they get to the end of the season and have a major tournament like a World Cup or European Championship, they are not 100% fit. They can't be".

Fabio Capello

"We need a winter break — I think Germany arrived in the second part of the season really well. It's really important to recover the force in this period. But it's not my job to decide the calendar.



Former Crewe manager **Dario Gradi** however was of similar opinion to Gary Simpson!

"I don't know what a winter break is. The big clubs would be going off abroad to the sunshine and playing in tournaments to raise money. So what it will do is it will extend the season and I really don't want to be playing football in the summer."

Martin O'Neill

"There should be a break, it would be fantastic. I believe it would give everyone a lift in January. We had it for a couple of years in the Scottish Premier League and we all got great benefit from it," he said referring in part to Celtic's run to the Uefa Cup final in 2003.

THE PHYSIOS

From physio website www.physioroom.com

As you switch on the TV after another big holiday feast spare a thought for the players, who on average cover 10 to 12 kilometres during a game, travel hundreds of miles to get to venues and spend the night before games (even home games) in different hotels. The cumulative effects of four games in eight days means they haven't got sufficient time to recover, physically or mentally, and inevitably the physical performance deteriorates. The bigger clubs with large squads will attempt to address this by rotating the squad, but this is frustrating for fans who pay to see the top players, not their understudies.

Gary Lewin, England first-team physio

The league needs to be reduced and I think a Winter break is vital, particularly for international players".

THE PLAYERS

Arsenal centre-back Per Mertesacker

This time of year is a strange situation for me! I spoke to some of my ex-Werder Bremen team-mates recently and they have two-and-a-half weeks off now. But I'm very glad to be here over the Christmas period and New Year - you get used to the English ways and it's a special thing about the football here.

Stoke striker Peter Crouch

"It is a long, hard season, what with European games and international games. Our league is probably the toughest about - even if you're playing one of the bottom sides you're still in for a real hard game, you're playing tough games week in, week out. So all the players and managers and coaches would be behind a winter break, without a doubt.

Kevin Phillips

"It's mad. I have played in numerous Christmas campaigns where it feels like every other day there is a game and you just don't get time to recover. In this day and age it's crazy because asking a top professional footballer to recover in just 24 hours isn't right. But it's the tradition. You just have to eat the right things and be disciplined. I also think the lads are so much fitter these days and, although we have a little moan, we cope with it pretty well."

Wolves winger Stephen Hunt

"If England and Ireland have bad tournaments after the rest of the countries have had their winter break and are fresher, people will hammer the English and the Irish players if they haven't performed. But if that happens, there will be a reason. Other countries are clever enough to do it.

"We're the bravehearts who go and play, but we criticise the English team when they're tired. I love playing football - but you've got to have a brain sometimes. The FA are happy to take people's money over Christmas, but if they just had 10 days off, they'd get full houses anyway.

OFF FIELD VIEWS

Mike Rance

"Personally I'm not keen on the idea of an enforced winter break for the simple reason that no one ahead of time can forecast when the weather is going to be bad. Consider for example the last two seasons. Had we decided on a January winter break following the 2009/10 season we would have struggled to complete our fixtures last campaign when it was December that was lost to the weather.



"The one area where I'd like to see more flexibility is the requirement to re-arrange fixtures as soon as possible after a postponement which results in extra mid-week games in the depths of winter. I understand the League's concern about fixture pile ups at the end of the season but the financial implications of more mid-week games in January and February are significant!

Premier League chief executive Richard Scudamore:

We have to look to our friends at UEFA and FIFA as the culprits [over the congestion and international commitments].

'UEFA used to have 13 match days now they want 21. FIFA used to have nine or 10 international dates and now it is averaging 12. Somebody has to give something up.

'If we had 18 teams [instead of 20] it would mean going from 380 events to 306 and there is no way we would do that in terms of public interest and fan interest.'



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Stats Facts

npower LEAGUE TWO - as at 02/01/12

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pt
1 Crawley Town	24	10	1	2	29	11	5	4	2	18	18	18	50
2 Cheltenham	24	8	2	2	17	6	7	2	3	20	15	16	49
3 Southend	23	6	4	2	18	9	8	0	3	24	15	18	46
4 Swindon	24	8	2	1	25	7	5	2	6	13	12	19	43
5 Shrewsbury	24	8	3	0	18	6	4	3	6	17	18	11	42
6 Gillingham	24	7	3	1	19	8	5	2	6	22	21	12	41
7 Burton Albion	24	6	4	2	16	13	5	3	4	22	23	2	40
8 Oxford Utd	24	5	5	1	21	11	5	3	5	12	13	9	38
9 Torquay	24	6	5	2	25	17	4	3	4	11	13	6	38
10 Rotherham	24	6	2	3	17	11	4	5	4	24	25	5	37
11 Accrington Stanley	24	7	1	4	20	13	2	8	2	12	13	6	36
12 Morecambe	24	3	4	5	21	17	6	4	2	18	11	11	35
13 Port Vale	24	5	2	5	23	19	5	3	4	19	15	8	35
14 MACCLESFIELD	24	5	6	2	15	8	3	0	8	8	18	-3	30
15 Crewe	24	3	2	6	12	16	6	1	6	17	19	-6	30
16 Aldershot	23	4	2	5	10	9	4	1	7	14	20	-5	27
17 AFC Wimbledon	24	3	3	7	19	29	4	2	5	11	17	-16	26
18 Bradford	24	5	2	5	20	16	1	5	6	8	17	-5	25
19 Bristol Rovers	24	4	2	7	17	23	2	3	6	13	24	-17	23
20 Barnet	24	4	3	5	17	22	2	2	8	11	23	-17	23
21 Hereford	24	3	2	8	12	26	2	5	4	11	13	-16	22
22 Dag & Red	24	4	1	8	17	23	2	2	7	8	18	-16	21
23 Northampton	24	1	4	7	12	24	3	2	7	16	24	-20	18
24 Plymouth	24	2	3	6	12	17	2	3	8	12	27	-20	18

Attendances

	High	Low	Average
Bradford City	11738	9594	10280
Swindon Town	12113	6304	7886
Oxford United	9291	6102	7590
Plymouth	12836	5018	6734
Bristol Rovers	8427	5024	6121
Southend	9782	4598	5947
Shrewsbury	6421	4871	5491
Gillingham	7750	4619	5482
Port Vale	5889	3714	4919
Northampton	5808	3643	4513
AFC Wimbledon	4629	3860	4403
Crewe	6613	3142	3869
Rotherham	5368	3284	3786
Cheltenham	5004	2035	3359
Crawley Town	4255	2389	3181
Aldershot Town	4110	2236	3044
Burton	3608	2246	2990
Torquay United	4157	2018	2720
Morecambe	4025	1810	2378
Barnet	2812	1745	2301
Macclesfield	4214	1527	2222
Dagenham & R	3259	1682	2161
Hereford	3097	1599	2115
Accrington	2652	1308	1607

Club by Club Discipline

	F	Y	R	P
Oxford United	291	41	2	3
Gillingham	276	43	5	3
Torquay United	273	34	2	1
Swindon Town	265	39	2	2
Macclesfield	263	36	1	3
Bristol Rovers	261	48	1	6
Hereford	261	41	1	2
Bradford City	260	32	4	3
Port Vale	257	44	1	6
Burton	256	45	4	3
Barnet	255	40	1	1
Northampton	254	43	3	5
Plymouth	251	43	6	6
Accrington	251	32	6	3
Rotherham	251	24	2	4
AFC Wimbledon	250	32	2	3
Crawley Town	238	35	2	1
Dagenham & R	238	31	5	6
Southend	236	44	1	3
Cheltenham	230	35	1	3
Shrewsbury	220	37	2	3
Aldershot Town	214	28	2	1
Morecambe	213	29	1	3
Crewe	151	23	2	1

F = Fouls Committed
Y - Yellow Cards
R = Red Cards
P = Penalties Conceded

Player Statistics

	Current Season		Silkmen Career	
	Appearances	Goals	Appearances	Goals
Jon Bateson	14(2)	0	14(2)	0
*Scott Boden	7(1)	0	7(1)	0
Shaun Brisley	30(0)	2	127(8)	8
Nat Brown	29(0)	0	149(3)	14
Lewis Chalmers	16(4)	1	43(13)	3
Steve Collis	1(0)	0	1(0)	0
Jack Cudworth	0(0)	0	0(0)	0
Colin Daniel	13(5)	1	100(16)	14
Greg Daniels	0(0)	0	0(0)	0
Tony Diagne	29(0)	4	48(1)	5
George Donnelly	16(0)	4	16(0)	4
Ross Draper	25(0)	4	91(8)	10
Wade Fairhurst	3(7)	0	3(7)	0
Tom Fisher	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
John Grant	0(5)	0	0(5)	0
*Dan Gray	2(0)	0	20(3)	1
Matt Hamshaw	12(12)	2	32(23)	4
Elliott Hewitt	13(2)	0	14(2)	0
Scott Kay	8(6)	0	8(6)	0
Jack Lane	0(0)	0	0(0)	0
Arnaud Mendy	4(5)	1	4(5)	1
Paul Morgan	1(1)	0	112(4)	1
Vinny Mukendi	3(7)	0	21(26)	4
Adam Roberts	0(3)	0	0(5)	0
*Emile Sinclair	6(1)	4	85(18)	18
Michael Thomas	1(0)	0	1(4)	0
Ben Tomlinson	12(4)	5	12(4)	5
Carl Tremarco	27(0)	2	78(8)	2
Jose Veiga	29(0)	0	87(0)	0
Sam Wedgbury	29(1)	0	43(13)	1

*Left club (Subs appearances in brackets)

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NEXT UP AT THE MOSS...

Saturday 14th January 2012 – 3.00pm

TORQUAY UNITED



Whilst all eyes for now are on the glory and romance of the FA Cup, the old cliché of the League being the 'bread and butter' remains true.

So the Silkmen will be looking to pick up points to keep in touch with the top half of the table when Torquay United visit the Moss Rose next Saturday, eager no doubt for revenge after the 3-0 reverse at Plainmoor earlier in the season.

Ling looks to steady the ship

Having steered the Seagulls to the end of season play-offs, then manager Paul Buckle opted for the challenge of the job with Bristol Rovers, a role ironically from which he was sacked his past week following three successive defeats over the Christmas and New Year period.

It was a big blow to lose talisman Buckle who had been with the club since 2007, overseeing promotion back to the Football League and their successful adjustment to the higher level.

But any fears were soon allayed as new boss Martin Ling looked to steady the ship. It appears to have been a shrewd move with the Gulls currently just outside of the play-off spots, looking no doubt to the New Year for greater consistency as they push for promotion.

Stop start campaign

As we saw with Accrington last week, Torquay are further proof that a run of results can make a big difference in

this division be that a positive or negative one.

Torquay have experienced both sides of the coin this season. First, and directly after the 3-0 win over Macclesfield, they went eight games without a win, a run which saw them plummet from just outside an automatic play-off spot to a lowly 18th place. A 4-0 win over Wimbledon however sparked the start of a six game unbeaten run, and seven wins in their last ten to climb right back up to the right end of the table.

Current Form

Torquay currently lie 9th in the npower League 2 table and will be enjoying a rare day off this afternoon given their scheduled league fixture against Dagenham has been postponed due to the Daggers' involvement in the FA Cup.

Last Six Home Games

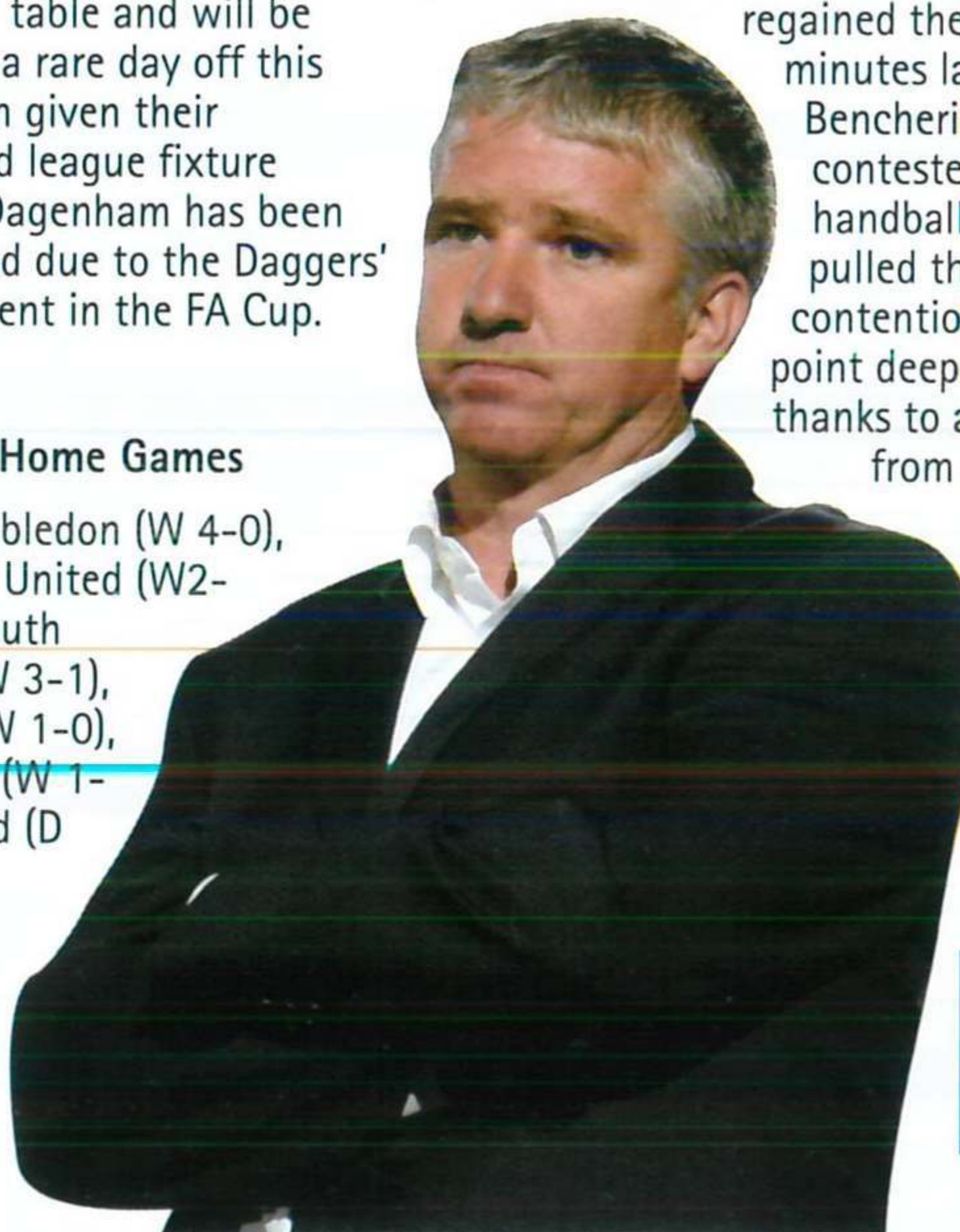
AFC Wimbledon (W 4-0),
Hereford United (W2-0), Plymouth
Argyle (W 3-1),
Barnet (W 1-0),
Swindon (W 1-0), Oxford (D 0-0)

Last Six Away Games

Bradford (L 0-1), Southend (L 1-4),
Crewe Alex (W 3-0), Port Vale (D 0-0),
Accrington (L 1-3), Plymouth W 2-1)

Last Time at the Moss Rose

The Gulls last trip up from Devon was very much a 'game of two halves'. Going into the break two goals to the good thanks to strikes from Tyrone Barnett and Colin Daniel, the visitors pulled one back just seven minutes into the second half through Jake Robinson. The Silkmen quickly regained their two goal lead five minutes later through Hamza Bencherif but a hotly contested penalty for a handball after 73 minutes pulled the visitors back into contention, and they stole a point deep into injury time thanks to a powerful header from Branston.



**MARTIN LING
HOPING TO GET
THE GULLS
FLYING**

SILKMEN STATS

2011/2012



Date	Opponents	Venue	Time	Comp.	Result	Pos.	Att.	(away)
AUGUST					F-A			
Sat 6	DAGENHAM & R	H	15:00	FL2	0-1	21st	1566	190
Tue 9	Hull City	A	19:45	CC1	2-0	----	4826	112
Sat 13	Crawley Town	A	15:00	FL2	0-2	22nd	2389	147
Tue 16	Hereford	A	19:45	FL2	4-0	15th	1609	46
Sat 20	BRISTOL ROVERS	H	15:00	FL2	0-0	15th	1865	479
Wed 24	Bolton Wanderers	A	19:45	CC2	1-2	----	6777	870
Sat 27	AFC WIMBLEDON	H	15:00	FL2	4-0	13th	1881	386
SEPTEMBER								
Sat 3	Torquay United	A	15:00	FL2	0-3	15th	2307	126
Sat 10	Cheltenham	A	15:00	FL2	0-2	19th	2268	70
Tue 13	MORECAMBE	H	19:45	FL2	1-1	21st	1527	294
Sat 17	NORTHAMPTON	H	15:00	FL2	3-1	17th	2033	388
Sat 24	Plymouth	A	15:00	FL2	0-2	18th	6005	68
Fri 30	SWINDON TOWN	H	19:45	FL2	2-0	13th	2317	532
OCTOBER								
Wed 5	Crewe Alexandra	A	19:30	JPT2	0-1	----	2271	210
Sat 8	Aldershot Town	A	15:00	FL2	2-1	12th	2341	74
Sat 15	OXFORD UNITED	H	15:00	FL2	1-1	12th	2293	594
Sat 22	Crewe	A	15:00	FL2	1-0	12th	3877	453
Tue 25	BRADFORD CITY	H	19:45	FL2	1-0	10th	2373	690
Sat 29	SOUTHEND	H	15:00	FL2	0-2	11th	2174	324
NOVEMBER								
Sat 5	Burton	A	15:00	FL2	0-1	13th	2698	205
Sat 12	East Thurrock	A	14:00	FAC1	3-0	---	1207	129
Sat 19	ACCRINGTON	H	15:00	FL2	1-1	14th	1792	168
Fri 25	Barnet	A	19:45	FL2	1-2	14th	2200	142
DECEMBER								
Sat 3	Chelmsford City	A	15:00	FAC2	1-1	---	2919	137
Sat 10	GILLINGHAM	H	15:00	FL2	0-0	13th	1724	253
Wed 14	CHELMSFORD CITY	H	20:05	FAC2R	1-0	---	1607	186
Sat 17	Shrewsbury	A	15:00	FL2	0-1	15th	4871	129
Mon 26	ROTHERHAM	H	15:00	FL2	0-0	14th	3179	1226
Sat 31	PORT VALE	H	13:00	FL2	* 2-1	13th	4214	2350
JANUARY								
Mon 2	Accrington	A	15:00	FL2	0-4	14th	1704	242
Sat 7	BOLTON WANDERERS	H	15:00	FAC3				
Sat 14	TORQUAY UNITED	H	15:00	FL2				
Sat 21	Swindon Town	A	15:00	FL2				
Tue 24	AFC Wimbledon	A	19:45	FL2				
Sat 28	CHELTENHAM	H	15:00	FL2				
FEBRUARY								
Sat 4	Northampton	A	15:00	FL2				
Sat 11	PLYMOUTH	H	15:00	FL2				
Tue 14	Morecambe	A	19:45	FL2				
Sat 18	ALDERSHOT TOWN	H	15:00	FL2				
Sat 25	Oxford United	A	15:00	FL2				
MARCH								
Sat 3	Bristol Rovers	A	15:00	FL2				
Tue 6	HEREFORD	H	19:45	FL2				
Sat 10	CRAWLEY TOWN	H	15:00	FL2				
Sat 17	Dagenham & R	A	15:00	FL2				
Tue 20	Rotherham	A	19:45	FL2				
Fri 23	BARNET	H	19:45	FL2				
Sat 31	Gillingham	A	15:00	FL2				
APRIL								
Fri 6	SHREWSBURY	H	19:45	FL2				
Mon 9	Port Vale	A	15:00	FL2				
Sat 14	CREWE	H	15:00	FL2				
Sat 21	Bradford City	A	15:00	FL2				
Sat 28	BURTON	H	15:00	FL2				
MAY								
Sat 5	Southend	A	15:00	FL2				

KEY: * = score includes own goal = sent off = Booked **CAPS** = goalscorers
 SUBSTITUTED PLAYERS are in colour † = won 5-3 on penalties

STARTING ELEVEN

SUBSTITUTES



Kay	Draper	Wedgbury	Hamshaw	Fairhurst	Tomlinson
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	SINCLAIR 2	Tomlinson
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Sinclair	Tomlinson
Tremarco	DRAPER	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Sinclair	Hamshaw
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Sinclair	Kay
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	SINCLAIR	Kay
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	SINCLAIR	Kay

Tremarco	Hewitt	Chalmers	Mendy	Sinclair	
Cudworth	Kay	Hamshaw	Mendy	Thomas	Grant
Hewitt	Kay	Hamshaw	Mendy	Grant	
Bateson	Kay	TOMLINSON 2	Mendy	Grant	
Bateson	Hamshaw	Tomlinson	Mendy	Grant	
Bateson	Hamshaw	Tomlinson	Mendy	Grant	Mukendi
Bateson	Hamshaw	Tomlinson	MENDY	Grant	

Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Tomlinson	Kay
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Donnelly	Kay
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	TOMLINSON	Donnelly	Daniel
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	TOMLINSON 2	Donnelly	Hamshaw
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	Donnelly	Hamshaw
Tremarco	DRAPER	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	DONNELLY	Hamshaw

Daniel	Hamshaw	Roberts	Mukendi	Grant	
Daniel	Hamshaw	Tomlinson	Mukendi	Grant	
Bateson	Hamshaw	Kay	Chalmers	Grant	
Fairhurst	DANIEL	Kay	Chalmers	Grant	
Fairhurst	Daniel	Kay	Chalmers	Grant	
Fairhurst	Bateson	Kay	Chalmers	Grant	

Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	Kay	Chalmers
Tremarco	DRAPER	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	DONNELLY	Chalmers
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	Boden	Chalmers
Chalmers	DRAPER	Wedgbury	Tomlinson	Boden	Daniel
Tremarco	Draper	Kay	CHALMERS	Boden	Hamshaw
Tremarco	Daniel	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Boden	Mukendi

Veiga	Hamshaw	Roberts	Fisher	Grant	
Collis	Kay	Roberts	Fisher	Grant	
Bateson	Kay	Mendy	Hamshaw	Grant	
Bateson	Kay	Roberts	Hamshaw	Grant	
Bateson	Wedgbury	Daniel	Mukendi	Grant	
Morgan	Kay	Mendy	Hamshaw	Grant	

Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Boden	Donnelly
TREMARCO	Draper	Wedgbury	Chalmers	Boden	DONNELLY
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Daniel	Boden	Donnelly
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Daniel	HAMSHAW	Donnelly

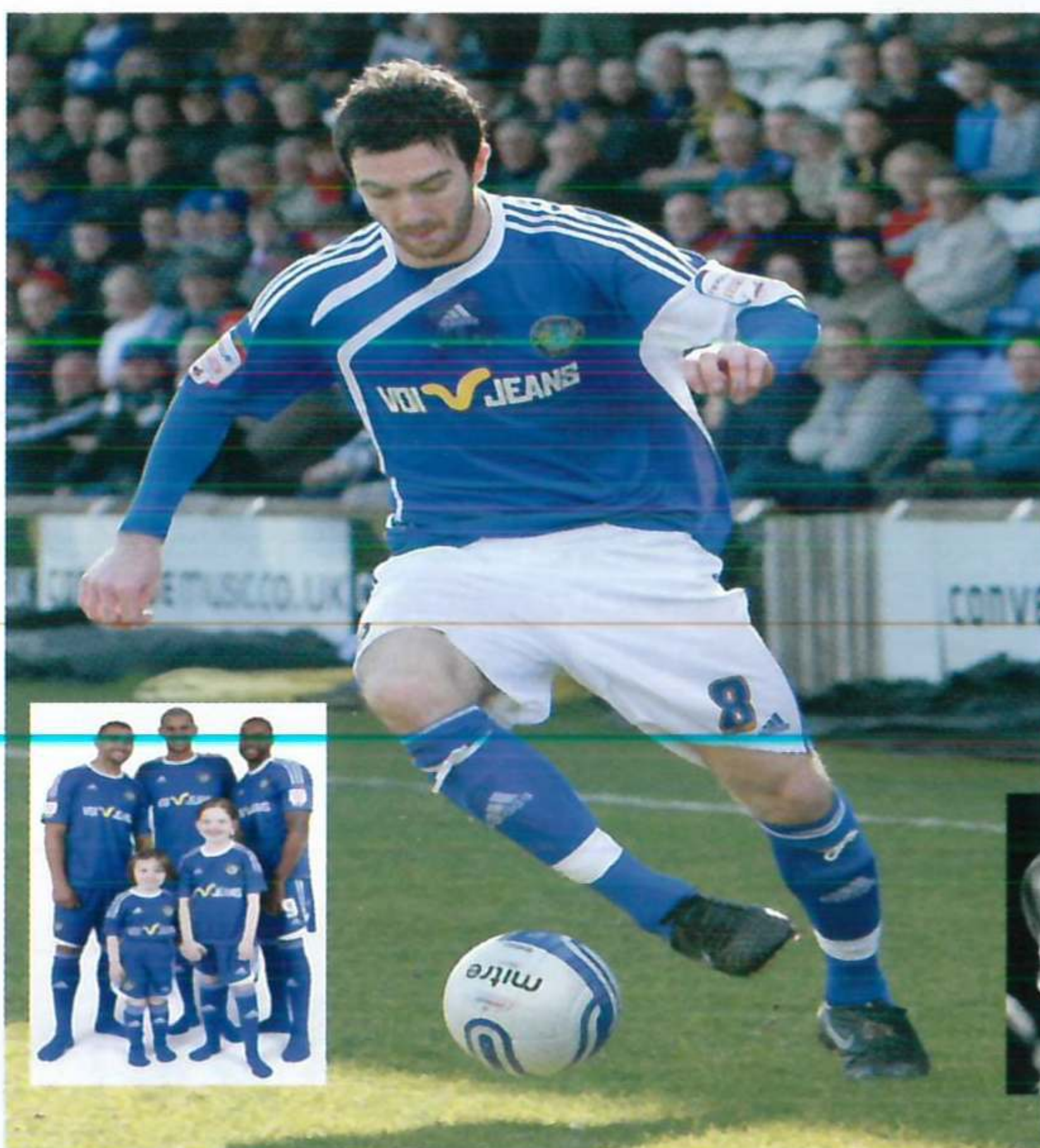
Morgan	Mukendi	Mendy	Hamshaw	Fairhurst	
Morgan	Collis	Roberts	HAMSHAW	Fairhurst	Gray
Morgan	Thomas	Bateson	Hamshaw	Fairhurst	
Morgan	Mendy	Bateson	Boden	Fairhurst	

Mendy	Hamshaw	Wedgbury	Daniel	Mukendi	Donnelly
Tremarco	Hamshaw	Wedgbury	Daniel	Mukendi	Donnelly
TREMARCO	Hamshaw	Wedgbury	Daniel	Mendy	Donnelly
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Daniel	Fairhurst	Donnelly
Tremarco	Draper	Wedgbury	Daniel	Hamshaw	Donnelly
Mendy	Draper	Wedgbury	Daniel	Hamshaw	DONNELLY

Morgan	Chalmers	Gray	Boden	Fairhurst	Grant
Morgan	Thomas	Mendy	Boden	Fairhurst	
Morgan	Bolton	Mukendi	Fisher	Fairhurst	Whiteoak
Morgan	Hamshaw	Mukendi	Fisher	Mendy	
Morgan	Fairhurst	Hewitt	Fisher	Mendy	
Morgan	Fairhurst	Hewitt	Fisher	Thomas	

Tremarco	Mendy	Wedgbury	Daniel	Thomas	Fairhurst
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Collis	Tomlinson	Bateson	Fisher	Daneils	
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FINAL THOUGHTS

with Clive Tyldesley



Imagine a new FIFA edict decreeing that as from noon today, all professional footballers must play for a club within ten miles of their homes. Well, Sepp Blatter has had sillier ideas!

I wouldn't want to be the one to have to tell Vinny Mukendi that Wayne Rooney is taking his place in the squad, but then if the initiative were

extended to managers it would be Sir Alex Ferguson's job anyway.

There is a certain irony that the national spotlight should shine here on the eve of the cup collision just up the A6 tomorrow lunchtime. If half of Surrey and Middlesex supports United, it stands to reason that Macclesfield Town will suffer from being in the shadow of the two big city rivals nearby.

It is on days like today that you are offered a rare chance to invite the floating voters of Prestbury, Wilmslow and Congleton in to see what football at Moss Rose is all about. Even if they don't turn up, they may be among the millions watching the highlights tonight.



This is much more of an FA Cup tie than City v United. When the Bolton Wanderers coach rolls down London Road and the players look out to see the giant television vans and camera positions in place, they will know exactly why ITV are here. Like circling vultures, the scent of a shock is the irresistible draw on 3rd Round day. We are declared neutrals, but our programme this evening would not be complete without a few unlikely heroes joyously spraying champagne into a steamed up camera lens.

The joy was short-lived but no Macclesfield fan present at Stamford Bridge five years ago will ever forget the magical minute after John Murphy's equaliser. Chelsea's 6-1 win did not begin to tell the whole story of an afternoon that ended with a defender, David Morley, donning the goalkeeper's gloves to try to keep out Lampard, Shevchenko, Wright-Phillips and co. Cup memories are made of that. Never mind the result, feel the nostalgia.

This place is soaked in nostalgia, not least because of the tragedies the club has had to try to absorb in the last couple of years. Losing Keith Alexander and Richard Butcher in such awful circumstances seems to have somehow drawn those involved with the club closer together. When you support a team like Macclesfield, there is every chance that you have personally met the manager and some of the players. You may not bump into Owen Hargreaves in Sainsbury's, but there is a chance that someone like Shaun Brisley might be in the check-out queue.

Who knows how many more third round ties this famous old ground will host?

How many more times it will squeeze five thousand or more fans through its turnstiles. The club must move with the times and a new home is vital to Macc's future, so it would only be fitting if today's occasion were blessed with a few dramatic moments to remember it by, and an historic first journey beyond Round 3.

Imagine if a Silkmen hero was sharing Monday's back pages with one of the local residents.

itv SPORT

BUTCH



**One Year On
Forever in our Thoughts**

THE TEAMS

Saturday, 7th January 2012
FA Cup with Budweiser, 3rd Round
Kick-Off 3.00pm

MACCLESFIELD TOWN

Manager: Gary Simpson

Squad (from)

1	JOSE VEIGA	☐
2	JON BATESON	☐
3	CARL TREMARCO	☐
4	SCOTT KAY	☐
5	NATHANIEL BROWN	☐
6	PAUL MORGAN	☐
7	LEWIS CHALMERS	☐
8	ROSS DRAPER	☐
9	GEORGE DONNELLY	☐
10	VINNY MUKENDI	☐
11	COLIN DANIEL	☐
12	ARNAUD MENDY	☐
14	TONY DIAGNE	☐
15	JOHN GRANT	☐
16	SHAUN BRISLEY	☐
17	SAM WEDGBURY	☐
18	WAIDE FAIRHURST	☐
19	TOM FISHER	☐
20	MATT HAMSHAW	☐
22	STEVE COLLIS	☐
23	BEN TOMLINSON	☐
24	ELLIOTT HEWITT	☐
25	MICHAEL THOMAS	☐
26	ADAM ROBERTS	☐
27	GREG DANIELS	☐
30	ANDREW MILLS	☐
32	JAMES BOLTON	☐
33	GEORGE WHITEOAK	☐

MATCH OFFICIALS

Ref: Jonathan Moss

Asst: Andy Newbold

Asst: Richard Clark

4th: Eddie Ilderton

NEVER FORGOTTEN



NEXT HOME GAME TORQUAY UNITED

Saturday, 14th January
2012

Kick-Off 3.00pm
npower League 2



BOLTON WANDERERS

Manager: Owen Coyle

Squad (from)

1	ADAM BOGDAN	☐
2	GRETAR RAFN STEINSSON	☐
3	MARCOS ALONSO	☐
4	PAUL ROBINSON	☐
5	GARY CAHILL	☐
6	FABRICE MUAMBA	☐
7	CHRIS EAGLES	☐
8	STUART HOLDEN	☐
9	TUNCAY SANLI	☐
10	MARTIN PETROV	☐
11	RICARDO GARDNER	☐
12	ZAT KNIGHT	☐
14	KEVIN DAVIES	☐
15	TYRONE MEARS	☐
16	MARK DAVIES	☐
17	IVAN KLASNIC	☐
18	SAMUEL RICKETTS	☐
19	NIGEL REO-COKER	☐
20	ROBBIE BLAKE	☐
21	DARREN PRATLEY	☐
22	JUSSI JAASKELAINEN	☐
23	SEAN DAVIS	☐
24	DAVID NGOG	☐
25	DEDRYCK BOYATA	☐
26	ROB LAINTON	☐
27	CHUNG-YONG LEE	☐
28	GAEL KAKUTA	☐
31	DAVID WHEATER	☐
36	MICHAEL O'HALLORAN	☐
37	JOSHUA VELA	☐
39	JOE RILEY	☐



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